TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.] "PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT." [SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, Usefulness and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate and beautiful Engravings, than any other journal,—rendering it the most complete AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

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AGRICULTURAL.

FARMERS' CLUBS.

IT is now the time of year for the farmers to attend to intellectual improvement. The most active and indust[illegible] men can find some time which, without prejud[illegible]door duties, he can give to study [illegible] Agriculture is eminently an experimental science. Mere hypotheses are of little value unless they have been tested by actual trial. It becomes the farmer, then, while he keeps a sharp eye upon all the suggestions of theoretical science to be still more on the alert, to avail himself of all the results of observation and experience which his own farm furnishes, or which he accumulates by reading. Every farmer ought to add to his knowledge every year, and thus to become more and more completely master of his business. But it always will so happen that the knowledge which each farmer acquires is peculiar. Each individual is directed by the character of his farm, the amount of his capital, or his own tastes and capacities to a particular kind of experience. Each man, if at all intelligent, will thus become an adept in some special department of the business. One man becomes skillful in the rearing of horses, another is celebrated by his neat stock, hogs or sheep. Another is celebrated for his fruit and vegetables; another still for his hay and grain crops, his corn or potatoes. Now these several kinds of success depend on conditions. Nothing in farming happens by accident. There are good reasons for the success of each of these men. They may reside in the same town and neighborhood. Each one may possess knowledge which would be extremely valuable to his neighbors. By a system of exchange all this accumulated experience might be made available to all. In fact this is the method pursued among scientific men. Each one among them makes experiments or observations in a special department of nature, and by means of books, periodicals, and the papers of learned societies, these become available for all. This is, in fact, the method of exchange in trade with which all are familiar, and which all, of necessity, practice.

Now, what farmers need is a system of exchange, in the matter of knowledge and experiment. This brings us to the subject of this article—FARMERS' CLUBS.

The principle upon which these should be founded is, that of *exchange of ideas*. Let the farmers in a given locality, be it large or small, agree to meet once a fortnight or once a week, for the purposes named above, to exchange their ideas on various points of farming. The question arises, How shall this result be easiest and most successfully reached? We venture to make a few suggestions on this point. There need be little of organization. Let the Chair be taken by each member in turn. Let there be a paper prepared by some member at each meeting; he choosing the subject for himself among those regarding which he has acquired the most experience and information. After the paper is read, let there be a few moments allotted to each member for remarks or criticism of the views put forth. This course will concentrate the discussions and give definiteness to the aims of the club. By taking such a course the best results of the reading and experiments of a large number might easily become the property of all who participate in the association. In this way, if the club was kept up, all the members would have a definite reason for collecting carefully all the results of their own experience and observation. They would have before them a definite reason for special reading in order to compare their own experiments with those of others, and put them to such tests as are supplied by a wide induction of facts. The influence of such an association would be felt almost at once in a higher grade of agricultural intelligence and improved practical farming. Papers would often be produced in such clubs which would be worthy of publication or delivery as lectures, thus extending their sphere of usefulness over a still wider range. The mere discipline of writing such papers would be of incalculable advantage to all who engaged in it. In a short time a body of Transactions would be accumulated which would become a storehouse of valuable hints for the descendants of those who began their accumulation.

But we shall be met with objections of this kind among practical farmers:—"I cannot write long papers," say such. "I have not the skill in composition necessary for the composition of such papers." But we ask such persons if they cannot tell what they know, in talking? We never meet a farmer, however defective his education, who cannot with great ease and clearness tell the results of his experience in stock raising, or with various crops and soils. If a man can talk he can write. The trouble with men who are not accustomed to composition is, that they are not satisfied with writing naturally as they talk. If the practical farmer is willing to lay aside all thought about fine writing, and simply set down his ideas as they come to his mind, he will have no trouble. When the Duke of Wellington was Premier in England he asked a member of the House of Commons to take a seat in the Cabinet. The answer was, "I cannot talk in the House." "Nonsense," said the old veteran, "do as I do, say what you think, and don't quote Latin." If our farmer friends will take Wellington's advice and write down simply and naturally "what they think," they will find no difficulty. It may be said by some, "My education is defective. I cannot write or speak grammatically, and my spelling is bad." What of it, my friend? Will that make your experience any less valuable? Your bad education is your misfortune, and you ought to take good care that your children do not suffer in the same way; but do not let it keep you from the benefit of a Farmers' Club. Go to work; write down your thoughts in their natural order about any subject you have studied out carefully, and you will have no trouble. Many men have become forcible writers and speakers who never learned to spell, and who were innocent of all knowledge of HUGH BLAIR or LINDLEY MURRAY. We are thus anxious to recommend writing in Farmers' Clubs, as, without this, the discussions are apt to become desultory and vague, and soon fade out of the memory.

If such clubs were to be formed in every neighborhood a vast amount of curious and valuable observation would be saved from oblivion, and the reflex influence on the intellectual growth of farmers themselves would be elevating and valuable in the highest degree. Other and subordinate good results might be effected by these clubs. Each association would feel the necessity of agricultural books and periodicals. Works which would be too expensive for one might be procured by a slight assessment on the members, and all the works thus procured would be consulted in turn, and an agricultural library would gradually grow up as the possession of every club.

These clubs would tend to promote social intercourse and self-respect among farmers, leading them and their children as a class to set a higher estimate on the profession. They would tend to excite a healthy pride in good farming, in the introduction of improved methods and machinery. They would render practicable the making of experiments by joint action which would be too expensive and hazardous for single individuals. They would facilitate the introduction of improved breeds of cattle, sheep, and horses. In short, all the advantages of associated action in a sparsely peopled community may be secured by these clubs, when conducted with good sense. We hope to hear from many which shall be formed during the present winter, and that those now in operation may be so managed as to largely benefit members and community.

THE DAIRY.—NO. III.

THE COW AND HER KEEPER.

All the elements contained in milk exist in the food which the animal consumes, put together and combined nearly or quite in the form in which they there occur. Certain plants contain one substance, as the leguminous, which are rich in materials for casein. Peas and beans are peculiarly in this class, and are valuable for producing growth in young animals, and for increasing the curd in milk. On the other hand, those plants containing oil, will materially increase the quantity of butter in the milk. But as the milk must contain both the oil for butter and casein, or the curd, it follows that if food be furnished to the cow rich in either of these elements, but deficient in the other, there may be serious loss, inasmuch as all fed to her beyond what she requires for her sustenance, and to supply the demand [illegible] the milk, must be rejected and thus wasted.

It is by the skillful combination of all these elements, existing ready formed in certain plants, and feeding them to the cow in such a manner that she can consume the largest amount, under the most favorable circumstances for its thorough digestion, that her utmost value is obtained. The use of concentrated food becomes of prime importance to every man who wishes to reach the highest value from his cow. Thousands, nay, tens of thousands of dollars are annually lost to the dairyman for the lack of this knowledge, or the want of practice upon it. If the farmer who devotes his dairy to butter were to feed his cows daily with a small quantity of any of the unctuous oils, as cotton seed oil, or rape oil, mixed with bran, or meal of any kind, he would find his butter product largely increased, so much so as to furnish a great profit on the extra food consumed. The same would hold good in regard to the cheese dairy, though to a greater degree.

In confirmation of the importance of concentrated food, I give a statement obtained from Mr. H. SACKRIDER, who lives at Hobart, in Delaware county, of the products of a single cow for seven months.

271 pounds butter, sold at 20c ⅌ lb,	$54 20
Calf fattened and sold for	5 00
Milk sold	12 50
Milk used in family of six grown people	10 80
Total for seven months	$82 50
The other five months would probably be worth, at least	8 50
Making, for the year,	$91 00

I inquired his method of keeping. He fed his cow her own milk and the slops of the house, as he kept no pig. Here, then, was the secret of his large yield of butter. Among the dairymen through that region two firkins of butter, or 160 pounds, is considered a good average for a cow. Mr. SACKRIDER's cow produced more than 100 pounds above the average. Probably if the whole milk had been used for butter, she would have given at least double, or four firkins. The cow was the pet of her owner, and when I saw her, in high condition, but not large. If placed upon the scales she would have weighed from 700 to 750 pounds. She indicated a dash of Short-horn blood, but would pass for a native.

While on the subject of Delaware county, I may as well remark that nowhere in the State have I found that peculiar sweetness of flavor to the milk, nor richness of color and flavor in the butter, as here, especially in the portion where the soil is colored by the decomposition of the red shales of the Catskill Mountains. I noticed it on my first entry into the county, in the early summer, and then late in the fall when again passing through. It may be all fancy, but I thought I discovered a marked difference. One fact I believe to be [illegible], and it is that more butter is produced from a cow in this county, than any other in the State. The difference may be due to its mountainous locality, for it is truly Alpine, and it may also be due to its people. I do not propose to solve the question. I only know that I never tasted sweeter milk or better butter than while in that county.

JOHNSTON, in his Agricultural Chemistry, (a work which every young farmer should own and read,) says we have reason to believe that the natural and immediate source of the fat of animals is in the oily matter which the food contains. Hence, the farmer who wishes to fatten his sheep or cattle, feeds them with food rich in oil, as oil cake, or linseed oil mixed with cut straw, bran, or meal.

Until quite recently no experiments had been made for a sufficient length of time, or by competent persons, to test the theories of the laboratory, or the closet. Special feeding had produced peculiar and unlooked for results, but it was left for THOS. HORSFALL, an English farmer of moderate means, but possessed of abilities which eminently fitted him for the task, to reduce the whole subject of special food, and its application to a favorable result, to the definite proportions of a science.

His experiments, conducted with great care and skill, and running through a series of years, were at length communicated to and published in the English Royal Agricultural Society's Journal, and re-published in the Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society for the year 1856. And I venture the assertion, without the fear of contradiction by any intelligent farmer, that there has never before been published so much valuable knowledge for the dairyman, and stall feeder, in so small a compass.

Mr. HORSFALL directed his experiments to establish the fact, that by affording an ample supply of the proper elements, he could increase the animal condition, and also increase and improve its product. It could not be done with the ordinary farm produce, of which he usually fed cabbages and kohl-rabi, in moderate quantities. Of meadow hay it would require, beyond the amount necessary for the maintenance of the cow, an addition of full 20 pounds for the supply of casein in a full yield of milk, (18 quarts,) 40 pounds for the supply of the oil for the butter, and 9 pounds for the phosphoric acid. It would therefore require the cow to consume 60 lbs. additional, of hay, to keep her in condition, and supply the full yield of milk.

This being simply impossible, he turned his attention to what are termed artificial, special, or feeding substances, and to select such as would be rich in albumen, oil, and phosphoric acid, regard being had to their comparative cost, with a view to profit.—P.

A CHAPTER ON SWEENIE.

SOMETHING over two years since, the following query was made in the RURAL, viz.,—"What is the best remedy for Sweenie?" Having waited thus long and patiently for some abler pen to come forth in vindication of the wrongs, outrages, and useless tortures to which the noblest animal given us for our use, is so often needlessly subjected by these self-styled V. S.'s, methought I would fire a squib from my *pop gun*, in hopes it might call out a thunderbolt from some big battery of *experience*. The same principle applies in investigating disease in the brute a[illegible] the human subject, and to one disease as to all others, and consequently so far as the analogy holds good, the same reasoning to the one as well as the other.

And now, Mr. Inquirer, allow me to say to you in all candor, that the very best remedy under the canopy of heaven, in my humble opinion, for Sweenie or any other disease, is *to know you have got it!* The second is like unto the first, viz.,—to know what you have when you have got it. The third is of minor importance, viz.,—what will restore the diseased organ to a healthy condition.

The above premises, at first thought, may seem nonsensical, (and with many will at the last,) and yet a little reflection will teach almost any brain that is too large to fill the cranium of an oyster, that in nine cases out of ten, and I had better say 999 in the 1,000, of the fatal cases of disease in the horse which they have seen treated, a scientific examination would have demonstrated that the first remedy spoken of had not been given or understood. Having owned as many as ONE horse in the last thirty years, and seen two others, I propose to give a case in point, and if it does not demonstrate any of the above positions, will perhaps prompt an inquiry which may be of some use.

Some four or five years since, a friend of mine owned a most magnificent animal, which, for style, speed, and docility, is seldom equalled. In passing his stable one day, he saw his horse standing in the yard, looking as though he was repeating the last four lines of the "Beggar's Petition," apostrophised no doubt. Upon inquiry, learned that sometime previous, while the ground was frozen, he was letting him play at the halter, and in making a turn, he remembers that he slipped, and from that time on had been more or less lame. Especially on starting had he shown it, and when standing, had put this foot forward. A learned Veterinary Surgeon, whom he had consulted, had told him that the horse was not really lame, but had contracted the foolish habit of standing with this foot forward. His remedy, (oh, shade of DADD and YOUATT, pardon!) founded upon this view of pathology, was to put on a stifle shoe on the well foot, and thereby make him stand on this, and learn to keep it under him. Upon removing this excrescence of ignorance, the animal immediately resumed his position upon the well foot, with every look and act of gratitude, more easily imagined than described. Fortunately for the case in point, the horse, from this exposure sickened, and died soon after with pneumonia; and while a learned disciple of Æsculapius was making a post-mortem, and talking learnedly to the gaping crowd of gray and red hepat-

PAMPAS GRASS.

PERHAPS it would not be considered, by our readers, a very grave offence should we introduce, and almost for the first time, a little of the ornamental on the first page of the RURAL. It being understood, then, that we have the approval of our friends, we leave the horses, and cows, and sheep, and barns, and a most beautiful engraving of the pig that took the prize at the late Dublin Exhibition, and which we will give in a future number, and introduce a plant which we have observed and admired almost every day the past summer. Many times have we resolved to furnish our readers with a description and engraving, and now we purpose to carry our resolution into effect. It is no other than the PAMPAS GRASS of Brazil, which there grows in such abundance as to cover the vast Pampas, or level plains, for hundreds of miles.

The London Horticultural Society was the first to introduce this plant as worthy the attention of cultivators in Europe and America, and large quantities of seeds were distributed by this Society in 1856, and in the Autumn of 1858 the reports from cultivators in all parts of England, spoke in glowing terms of the huge proportions and magnificent appearance of this famous grass. The finest specimen we have seen was on the grounds of ELLWANGER & BARRY of this city. At the base it was some eight or nine feet in diameter, and the flower-spikes about the same distance from the ground. In our northern climate the plant must be removed to the cellar or green-house in winter, but as far South as Washington it would doubtless prove entirely hardy.

Messrs. HOVEY of Boston, and some gentlemen in the neighborhood of New York city, have good plants. Mr. HOVEY gives his experience and opinions in his magazine, as follows:—"Coming from a tropical country it could scarcely be expected to prove hardy in our climate, and this has proved to be the case thus far; a splendid specimen in our own collection, grown with much care, and planted out the second year, and well protected, having been killed in the winter of 1858. Disappointed in this experiment, another plant was carefully potted, shifted from time to time, and finally placed in a large tub about eighteen inches in diameter. During winter it had the protection of a cool green-house. Last spring it was placed out in the open air with other plants, and soon began to make a vigorous growth, forming a splendid tuft of long slender rush-like leaves, gracefully drooping to the ground. The latter part of August it began to throw up its stout reed-like stems, from which sprang two flower-spikes that attained the height of eight feet, terminated with plumes of feathery flowers fifteen inches long, of a light or silvery color, which actually glistened under our bright sun. It has been justly described as a "fountain of foliage, acquiring more and more force from day to day, till at last the gushing fluid sprung up into jets of livid silver."

Such is the Pampas grass as grown under unfavorable circumstances; when allowed to acquire strength in a deep rich soil, it attains the height of twelve feet and throws up forty or fifty of its magnificent plumes, as represented in our engraving. South of Washington, where it will prove hardy, and attain these or larger dimensions, what a treasure it must be!

In our gardens it is doubtful whether any protection will make it safe to leave it out in the open ground: but no matter; though we may not have the pleasure of witnessing such grand specimens, smaller plants possess beauty enough to pay for all the winter room they require. We doubt not it could be kept in a dry cellar with perfect safety, and transferred to the open ground in spring, lifting it after blooming in autumn, as we do many other plants.

When growing it requires an abundance of water. The soil should be rich and light, and the aspect warm. As soon as the weather becomes severe, it should be removed to the green-house, where, placed in a good position, its mass of gracefully recurved leaves render it a conspicuous and very ornamental object. By increasing from time to time the size of the tub, large and very fine specimens could undoubtedly be obtained. It is well worth all the labor that may be bestowed upon it. It is readily propagated by dividing the roots.

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ization of the lung, and its difference from tuberculosis, which was as well understood, no doubt, as the Indian dialect in the House, several years since, by the sarcastic Bonne. Poor Farmer, with scalpel, (alias butcher's knife,) was busy in dissecting each limb from coffin to shoulder joint. On the lame side we found the appearance of the limb healthy until we got to the shoulder joint, where the whole of the tissues which compose the joint were thickened and highly vascular, showing a high degree of inflammatory action.

Now, here was a valuable animal ordered from a warm stable into the open yard, and compelled to stand on an inflamed joint three weeks, (six being necessary to the cure,) through the ignorance of one of these self-styled V. S.'s. It must be evident to every reflecting mind that the horse, when the joint became unendurable, would lie down until no doubt he became thoroughly chilled, which was the exciting cause of the lung disease with which he died. Were this an isolated case, or an exception, and not the rule, it would be of far less importance in this place. Be this as it may, one thing is sure, viz.,—unless we have a clear idea of what we have to deal with, we shall stand a good chance of being like the the blind leading the blind. What then is Sweenie? Physiologists tell us that in all organs of locomotion we have two sets of antagonistic muscles, that are, or should be, nearly balanced in power, and that these muscles are supplied with nerves, upon which their power of action wholly depends. It was the venerable John Hunter, I think, that laid down this law of the system, viz.,—"If you destroy the nervous influence to an organ, you destroy in the same ratio the function of that organ." Now, Sweenie, as it is called, is no more or less than an injury which the nerves that supply the muscles of the shoulder have received, either from over-exertion, as in running, or a direct blow,—or, what is more commonly the cause, nine times in ten, of too hard a draft in a collar too large.

Having seen a colt three months old sweenied in both shoulders, we concluded it could have been done in no other way than by running, or coming in contact with a foreign body when in motion, and this, for both shoulders, would have been a singular coincidence. What are the phenomena attending this. First—From five to eight, or ten days, seldom over eight, the muscles of the shoulder which has received the injury, is swollen, and painful to pressure, and the animal is more or less lame. Generally about the fifth or sixth day the swelling and pain begins to subside, and with it the lameness disappears. After the tenth day have never, in an uncomplicated Sweenie, seen the horse lame, nor do I believe he ever is. About this time the muscles begin to waste, and then an altered motion in the horse's gait, analogous to what there is in old topers from paralysis of one side. You ask them if there is any pain in the limb which they drag after them, and they will answer you in plain English. *No.* The horse gives you the same answer by standing as well on that limb as the other, by drawing as well as before; and when you ask him to trot, he answers you in just as intelligent language as the toper, viz.,—by a want of his natural motion. The animal which was a square traveler before, now becomes what over-wise horsemen know as a paddler; not as sure footed, but otherwise as well fitted for his duties as before. Having heard it stated times without number, that horses were lame from Sweenie for months and months, would here enter my feeble protest against all such nonsense, and caution each and every one to look carefully from the hoof to the shoulder for a more serious complication with this disease, where the lameness continues after the tenth day, or where the horse favors one foot more than the other. The distinguishing features between disease of the hoof and shoulder, may be taken up at another time.

And now, Mr. Inquirer, I trust you have got two of the best remedies for your disease. You should now know it when you see it, and when you know it, should know that you have simple paralysis of the nerves which supply the muscles of the shoulder joint. Now let me ask you for humanity's sake, to look around you, and inquire if the numberless patients of paralysis which you meet in our large cities, have been blistered from one end of the limb to the other,—or had their skin blowed up,—or a skoke or horse-radish root six or eight inches long stuck under the skin and allowed to rot out, in a two-legged brute, for a similar pathological condition to what you have here in a four-footed one. Remember the language of horses is not like Balaam's Ass, but more intelligent than many of their masters, to those who appreciate them.

Ask yourself the simple questions,—What do I want to accomplish? And how am I to do it? Common sense will answer you by saying, that you want to restore the nerve force to these wasted muscles, in the simplest way possible. If you are not too lazy, you can do it with simple friction by the hand. I know an old Dutchman that professes to cure this disease with a corn cob which grew on a stalk producing three ears; but you must keep the butt of the cob constantly up, or else "it won't make the *nerves* run right!" Any stimulating liniment, with friction, persevered in, will accomplish the same thing.

Were I a learned M. D., would give you a formula something after this wise:—Oleium Tiglii, 1 ounce, Oleium Origanum, 2 ounces, &c., &c., &c. But as I am simply Poor Farmer, will say in plain English, that a compound of many of the essential oils will do. And one that I have never known to fail in the last twenty years, is the following:—Oil of Spike, 1 oz.; Oil Origanum, 2 oz.; Tar, 1 oz; Crude Oil Amber, 2; Spirits Turpentine 2; pulverized Cantharides, ¼ oz. Mix, and shake well before using. Two tablespoonfuls to the shoulder, well rubbed in, is enough per day.

The strength of the Cantharides depends much on the way they have been saved, &c., and should you chance to get a pure article, your proportion of it may be too strong. Have never found it necessary to vesicate the skin. Perhaps it would be as well to mix the rest, and then add this until you find what the skin will bear. If your collar fits the horse, and you will apply this twice a day, unless the skin gets sore, and then omit for a few days, until the soreness subsides, you can work your animal every day, and restore him to a healthy condition. Should you trust it to the second person to do, and he gets careless and blisters the skin, have it well washed every day with castile soap, and then grease with fresh lard until the hair gets out that has been lost.

South Avon, Jan., 1861. Poor Farmer.

* * *

A Good Bed for Swine.—Warmth is a great desideratum in wintering swine. Ours sleep this winter in the manure thrown from our horse stables, and a very comfortable place they find it. We believe it an advantage all around, as the horse manure will be better kept, and well mixed with swine manure and straw.—Jno. Sanfield, *Feb.*, 1861.

LONG ISLAND LANDS—AGAIN.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—I notice in your issue of the 12th inst., *an anonymous article* headed "Suffolk County, Long Island," in which it is stated that the cost of clearing land in that County, between Thompson and Suffolk stations, is "*about fifty dollars per acre.*" The truthfulness of this statement is a fair specimen of the truthfulness of the whole article. It so happens that thirty acres of the land to which he alludes as having been cleared and cultivated the past summer, has been done by my sons, and as to the expense, I think myself pretty well "posted up." *It will not exceed twenty dollars per acre.* I speak of my own land—and that is a fair sample of the average between the stations named.

Your correspondent says, "no returns can be expected the first, and but little the second year." Who would expect returns the first year, while the process of breaking up is going on? But, by the way of experiment only, small patches of corn, potatoes, turnips, and buckwheat were put in, with, (as my sons write,) *most satisfactory results.* The cost of the manure used was less than one-fourth the value of the crops. Where there was with others "but partial success," as alluded to by your correspondent, there were but partial and imperfect efforts made to ensure it.

With regard to the culture of cranberries on Long Island up-lands, the results *already obtained* are conclusive and satisfactory. In 1859 a silver medal was awarded by the American Institute, to Mr. Young, of Lakeland, for "best twenty-five bushels of cranberries." These were grown upon *less than one-third of an acre,*—the plants having been set in 1854, and cultivated *without manure of any kind.* No one who ever made the experiment failed to get the plants to grow, and to fruit after the first year. The profits of cranberry culture on Long Island, as stated to me by Mr. Young and Mr. Dubois, the most extensive growers whom I met, "are very great indeed—greater than they ever thought could be realized anywhere." My own opinion is, that the growing of *hay* and *potatoes* alone, to say nothing of the cultivation of small fruits, can be made as remunerative, owing to market facilities, as the cultivation of *wheat* in Western New York or Canada West. Sufficient and *reliable data* have been obtained which will warrant this conclusion. Your correspondent, had he wished to state facts from which his readers, if intelligent agriculturists, could form an opinion for themselves as to the capabilities of these lands, might have told you that at Deer Park, only four miles west of Thompson Station, upon soil just like that between Thompson and and Suffolk stations, *clover and timothy have been and are successfully and extensively grown—and that clover has been very successfully used as a fertilizer.* He might have said too that on the same farm, *from a ten acre field of clover sod three thousand bushels of potatoes were grown, worth in the field at the time of digging, over fifty cents per bushel.* Are these some of the "stories manufactured by speculators and other interested persons" to which your correspondent alludes?

There are other facts connected with the various articles which have from time to time appeared *against* Long Island lands, which it is well enough for all who have read them to know. Some years since, lengthy advertisements of these lands appeared in various journals, over the signature of Dr. Peck, of the city of Brooklyn—which advertisements, so far as the nature and capabilities of the soil are concerned, I believe, *upon personal examination,* to be substantially correct. These advertisements *did not appear* in the *American Agriculturist*, a paper owned and edited by one Orange Judd, of New York. During the spring of 1860, articles appeared in Judd's paper, evidently intended to counteract the effect of the advertisements just spoken of, and damaging to Long Island lands. Some owners of these lands have since brought an action against Judd for $10,000 damages. It is said the issue of this suit will very much depend upon *the value of the lands as it shall appear in evidence* upon trial. It is just possible that the article which lately appeared in your journal is the "cropping out" of ignorance and prejudice; but in view of the fact just stated, it is more natural to surmise that it was written either by Judd himself, or by some one in his interest. At any rate it would have had greater weight than any *anonymous article* can have, had the author given his name to the public in connection with his statements, as a guarantee of his willingness and ability to substantiate them. Yours respectfully,

Elam Stimson.

St. George, Brant Co, C W., 29th January, 1861

Remarks.—Entertaining a favorable opinion of their value, we have no desire to depreciate Long Island Lands,—but, having published several articles in their favor, could not refuse a rejoinder from one whom we supposed, and still suppose, to be uninfluenced by any third party. Though the author's name was not given in connection with the article alluded to, it is in our possession—in connection with a note, saying the writer is responsible for his statements. In justice to Mr. Judd, we may add that we do not believe he knew anything about the article until it appeared in the Rural, though we may be mistaken.—Ed.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—Seeing that the ox of W. L. S., of Gaines, works well, eats well, and runs well, all he has got to do is to feed him well, and I warrant him to get fat if not worked too much.

The Foot-Rot in Sheep can be cured by thorough paring, and a salve, made of lard and finely pulverized blue vitriol, applied every three or four days for three or four times, and then once in two weeks for two or three times. The sound ones must be dressed with the salve also, and the diseased must be separated from the sound at first dressing. No use for tobacco or anything but the vitriol and lard, or butter. If the weather is hot, a little tar mixed with the salve makes it *stick* better. I pulverize the vitriol by hanging up an iron pot or wash kettle, put in half a pound of vitriol and a cannon ball, and move the pot so that the ball will roll round on the vitriol and it will pulverize it as fine as wheat flour.

Manure Heating.—H. T. B. need take no fear the dung or straw in sheep sheds will heat if kept dry, and all sheds should be water-tight. Whoever saw dung or straw heat without it got water, and a good deal of it. See Rural New-Yorker, Jan. 5th, page 6.

Scab on the Eyes of Cattle.—If W. W. Chapman will rub a little unguentum on the eye lids of his cattle, it will cure the scab he mentions, but he must be very careful to put on very little. I have known some very valuable cattle killed by applying too much, and letting out in cold storms immediately afterwards. Put on a very little, rub all over the diseased part, and a little outside of the scabby places. The first application generally will effect a cure. Twelve cents worth of unguentum will cure a dozen cattle, else they are worse than any I have seen. Will Mr. Chapman please report after he has seen the effect of the unguentum? John Johnston.

Near Geneva, N. Y., 1861

The Bee-Keeper.

A Hive with Movable Frames.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—In a late number of your valuable paper, you have answered an inquiry about feeding bees, and in your remarks you speak of a hive with *frames*. Now, I am trying to get a start in the "bee line," and want to get a right start, and as I have never seen a hive made as you speak of, if it will not be asking too much, I should like a description of the hive, or a description of the best hive in use that is practicable for a farmer to have.—O D Tewksbury, *Lamoille, Ill*, 1861

The hive spoken of is one with movable frames, something like picture frames, inside of which the bees make the comb. These frames can be taken out at any time and examined, to ascertain the quantity of honey stored for winter, to exterminate the bee moth, or for any other purpose. This may be considered a hazardous system by those not acquainted with bees; but a little tobacco smoke will quiet the bees so that they may be examined with safety. The timid may use the bee-hat, made of wire, and then there is not the least danger. This hive gives the keeper entire control of his bees, and he does not, therefore, work in the dark or depend upon good luck for success. This system of keeping bees was first practiced, we think, by Dzierzon, of Prussia, in 1845; but instead of a frame he used only a cross-bar, so that the comb was attached to the hive on the sides, and in moving them it was necessary to use the knife to detach them. This plan was improved upon, if our memory serves us correctly, by Baron Berlepsch, who invented the square frames so that the combs could be removed without the least injury. About the same time, and without knowing what was doing in Germany, an invalid minister, forced to seek out-door exercise, Rev. L. L. Langstroth, undertook for his amusement the study of the honey-bee, and invented and patented a hive very much like that of Dzierzon, as improved by Berlepsch, with movable frames. The right to make any number of hives the purchaser may need is sold, we believe, for $5, and may be obtained for any of the Western States, of R. C. Otis, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, with all necessary descriptions. They are simple, and can be made by any one handy with tools, at a small cost. We have not the least interest in this or any other hive, but this seems to be the only sensible way of keeping and caring for bees. We have used these hives for some years, so we speak from experience. If the experience of other bee-keepers differs from ours, we will cheerfully publish the facts, as our only object is to elicit truth.

Size of Colonies.

1. On the 10th of June, 1855, I prepared two hives, by inserting in each a set of sixteen frames furnished with guide comb. Both sets were of exactly the same weight, and were arranged in two tiers, in the same manner in each hive. I then introduced in the one a swarm of bees weighing six pounds, and in the other a swarm weighing three pounds, and gave them queens which, judging by the hives they were taken from, were equally fertile. On the 8th of October following, when all the brood had emerged in each, I took out the frames, and brushing off the bees carefully, weighed each set separately. On deducting the weight of the frames and guide combs, I found that the combs built and filled by the six-pound colony weighed 40 pounds 6¼ oz., and those built by the three-pound colony weighed 17 pounds. The product, in combs and honey, of the larger colony was thus ascertained to be 6 pounds 6¼ oz., or more than twice the product of the smaller colony; and this excess was the result, exclusively, of the greater *working force* which that colony had from the start. This experiment shows that three pounds of bees are insufficient to enable a colony to labor advantageously.

2. I repeated the experiment in the same manner in 1856, excepting that I gave the weaker colony four pounds of bees. The season was unfavorable, and on the 15th of October, the stronger colony had produced only 10 pounds 2 oz. of combs and honey, and the small 10 pounds 9 oz. Hence the stronger had produced, proportionally, only 3 pounds 4¼ oz. more than the weaker.

3. Simultaneously with this second experiment, I fitted up another hive in like manner, and introduced in it a swarm weighing five pounds. Weighing the product of this colony at the same time in October, it proved to be 15 pounds 15 oz. I judged hence that six pounds of bees was probably about the weight which a swarm or colony should have when hived.

4. In 1857, which was an unusually good honey year in my neighborhood, I again repeated these experiments, giving the stronger colony seven pounds of bees, and the weaker six pounds. The result, as ascertained in October, when all the brood had emerged, was that the stronger colony had produced 50 pounds, and the weaker 50 pounds 11 ounces.

These experiments are certainly not to be regarded as furnishing a rule applicable under all circumstances and in all localities. But they show that in a comparatively poor honey district, such as mine is, a swarm should contain about six pounds of bees, in order to be able to labor to most advantage. Some important particulars also require to be taken into consideration, when bees are to be weighed. Those with which I experimented were taken from clusters hanging outside of their respective hives, and may be supposed to have had comparatively little honey in their stomachs. One hundred and seventy-seven of them weighed half an ounce—being at the rate of five thousand to the pound. When about to swarm, bees naturally, or instinctively, gorge themselves with honey; and at such times one hundred and twenty-five would probably weigh half an ounce, or four thousand to the pound.—Berlepsch, in *American Bee Journal.*

The Bee Annoyance in California.

Since the extensive importation and production of bees in California, they have become, in many respects, a source of great annoyance. The housekeeper, in cooking, the grocer and fruit dealer, all have them swarming by hundreds, and perhaps thousands, around their premises, rivaling the house fly in troublesome propensities. A Sacramento coal dealer recently obtained a quantity of coal which had a cask of molasses broken over it. When the coal was brought into the yard, the bees collected in such quantities that he spent half a day with a hose in washing off the coal in order to remove the temptation. They have partially destroyed the produce of several vineyards near Sacramento; when the grapes were gathered it was found that the little thieves had extracted the juice. As a matter of course, a large number of bees are necessarily destroyed while poaching on forbidden ground. Is there no remedy for these difficulties? asks the *Sacramento News*. Can bees be kept from annoying everybody but their owners, and at the same time preserve their own lives? or must the evils complained of continue to increase in magnitude?

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Fast Work Wanted.

The editor of the *Connecticut Homestead* having attended a county fair where a new race track had just been completed, and fired into enthusiasm by the spirit of the occasion, takes a prophetic glance at the results of the general adoption of race courses. He does not overlook *foot* races, as an efficient means of limbering the joints of stupid laborers,—proposes a race of *wheelbarrows*, loaded with 300 pounds of dirt, best two in three, half-mile heats, as a means of quickening the pace of Michael and Patrick,—thinks that cow races would be useful for animals that frequent poor pastures, as many now cannot travel far enough in a day to fill their stomachs on the scant herbage,—and does not forget that many cats miss their prey from a want of greater quickness, and he therefore proposes cat races, as a means of preventing the heavy depredations now committed, and thinks if cats generally could be brought up to a 2.40 speed, it would prove the salvation of many a grain bin and root cellar. He even asserts that many a hen brings up a lean, half-starved brood of chickens, for want of higher activity in scratching, and thinks some means should be devised to bring them up to the scratch. He is of opinion that when horse racing becomes universally popular, that mothers will name their children after fast animals, "and the Bibles will be lit up with blazoury of modern horse nomenclature, as for example, Flora Temple Smith, born Oct. 10, 1860—Patchen Smith, Nov. 1, 1861."

A Plea for the Birds.

Hon. Samuel A. Law, of Meredith, in this State, and for the last three years Member of Assembly from Delaware County, has written a communication upon the Act of last winter, one section of which forbids the killing at any time of the nightingale, night-hawk, blue bird, yellow bird, Baltimore oriole, finch, thrush, lark, sparrow, martin, swallow, robin, or bobolink, between the first day of February and the first day of September, under a penalty of fifty cents for each bird killed. The reason for the passage of this law he states to be the agency of these birds in preventing the increase of noxious insects. It has been urged that the robin was so destructive to cherries and strawberries, as to justify its destruction. This opinion, Prof. J. W. P. Jenks, of Middleboro', Massachusetts, has successfully refuted. The plan adopted by him was, to obtain birds at day-break, mid-day, and sunset; to obtain them from village and country; and to preserve the contents of their gizzards. He demonstrated conclusively that insects injurious to vegetation constitute the natural and preferred food of the robin, and that during two-thirds of the year the bird takes no vegetable food whatever. Whenever vegetable food was found in the body, it was only in limited quantities, and mixed with insect food. This was only in the months of June, July, August and September, and then the vegetable products consisted mainly of elderberries and pokeberries. The edible fruits destroyed were in too minute quantities to warrant complaint.

Experiments with Potatoes.

The following statement of experiments in the cultivation of potatoes, made by George R. Underhill, Queens Co., N. Y., was communicated to the *American Agriculturist*, by the Secretary of the Glen Cove Farmers' Club.

Planted 4⅞ acres of land with Mercer potatoes in furrows 2½ feet apart. Harvested 1270 bushels. Average yield per acre 260 bushels.

Crop sold for		$652,00
Cost of Manure	$392,00	
Expense of Culture	110,00	
Cost of Seed	25,00	
Total Expenses		$527,00
Net Profit (25.64 per acre)		$125,00

Three plots were set off, and the potatoes carefully measured, for the purpose of testing the comparative profit from the use of different kinds and qualities of manure; the results of the experiments were as follows:

Plot No. 1, containing one acre, was enriched with 100 loads of New York stable manure, and 350 lbs. guano per acre. The manure was placed in the bottom of the furrows, the guano sowed on it, and the potatoes dropped on both, and covered with a plow. Yield 250 bushels.

On Plot No. 2, containing one acre, used 150 loads *old* New York stable manure, and 350 lbs. guano per acre. Yield 308 bushels.

Plot No. 3, containing three quarters of an acre, on low damp ground, manured the same as No. 1—except four rows in which no guano was put—yielded at the rate per acre of 347 bushels.

The crops from rows in which guano was used, exceeded in value that in which there was none, at

The rate per acre of	$54,00
Cost per acre for guano	10,00
Net gain by the addition of the guano	44.00

With the exception of three of four rows on the lower side of the damp ground, in which the potatoes were nearly all decayed, there was not a bushel of rotten ones in the whole piece. The seed used, was about the size of hen's eggs, with the butt end taken off, and cut in two pieces.

Inquiries and Answers.

Durability of Chestnut Timber.—In renewing my subscription to the Rural New-Yorker, I embrace the occasion to ask of any one who can furnish it (through the Rural,) some explanation, or confirmation, of an article in the Rural of December 22d, taken from the *Boston Cultivator*, respecting "the durability of chestnut shingles." All my experience and observation with chestnut lumber, (confined, however, to weather boarding and fencing boards,) condemns it for any purpose where nails have to be used, on account of the nail hole, in a very few years, becoming large enough to slip over the nail head.—Geo. T. Paull, *Smithfield, Fayette Co., Va.*, 1861.

Ripe Boots and Shoes.—Noticing in the Rural of the 20th ult. the complaint of C. W., that boots and shoes were picked before fully ripe, I send you the following recipe for maturing them, and also rendering them water-proof. One-half pint neatsfoot oil; 2 oz. beeswax; 2 oz. spermaceti; 5 oz. mutton tallow, 1½ oz. gutta percha,—mix over a slow fire, and apply while warm.—W W A., *The Square, N Y*

Incombustible White Wash.—In the Rural of January 12th, I noticed an inquiry for fire-proof paint, or wash. I send you the following:—Pass fine, freshly-slaked lime through a fine sieve, and to six quarts of the lime thus obtained, add one quart of the purest salt and one gallon of water, boil the mixture and skim it clean. Then, to every five gallons of this mixture, add one pound of alum; half pound of copperas, and put in slowly three-fourths pound of potash and four quarts of fine sand. It adheres firmly to wood or brick.—Young Subscriber, *Malone, N. Y.*

Rural Notes and Items.

The Weather—*Great and Sudden Changes.*—In our last number brief mention was made of the weather—stating that for two months it had been remarkably pleasant for the season—that the temperature had been very uniform, with little snow, and fair sleighing almost continually during the winter, in this locality. The paper containing this favorable report had scarcely gone to press ere a great change occurred in the weather—a severe snow storm commencing on Wednesday night and continuing through the day following, (7th inst.,) the mercury being 6 below zero at 2 P. M., and while the snow was falling rapidly. At 10 P. M. the mercury reached 16 below. High winds prevailed during the storm. About one foot of snow fell in twenty-four hours. We find on examination that many peach buds are destroyed, and fear the crop will prove an entire failure in this section. Late Saturday night the weather moderated materially; on Sunday and Monday the streets were flooded with water, and now (Tuesday A. M.) the sleighing has disappeared.

* * *

Best Breed of Swine for the West.—"Agricola," who professes to have had no little experience with the best breeds of swine known in the West, writes to the *Valley Farmer* that he places the Chester County White first on the list, without hesitation. He has found the hogs of this breed "perfectly hardy, prolific breeders, and good nurses; thriving well in our climate, and under good management attaining a weight of 400 to 500 lbs. with good treatment, at the age of from 12 to 18 months—and being, in fact, all that could be desired of a hog." It is also said they are quiet and peaceable, good graziers, and fatten readily at any age desired. After speaking well of the Berkshires and Suffolks, the writer concludes:—"But, taking all things into consideration, it will be difficult to find a breed possessing more good traits for Western men than the Chester White. And those who are raising hogs would find a cross of this breed of incalculable value. It would increase their size, improve their form, hasten their maturity, and, what is more important than all else, materially lessen the amount of food for a given number of pounds of pork. This, too, would be the case with all the breeds mentioned—but none of the other breeds combine so many excellent qualities."

* * *

Unparalleled Fecundity.—A member of the Society of Friends, who resides in Cayuga county, sends us the following remarkable statement. He believes it to be perfectly reliable, as a relative knew something of the case, and had no doubt of the correctness of the account. Our friend writes—"The following well authenticated statement exhibits an instance of extraordinary fecundity in a sow of the Chinese breed, which, it is believed, may challenge competition with any other upon record. She was in the possession of Joseph Tilney, of Writtle Parish, in Essex, England. The fact is made public with the view of demonstrating the superiority of that breed (for fecundity) over perhaps that of any other. In six years (the time she lived, being killed by accident,) she had fifteen farrows of pigs, viz.—First farrow, 16—brought up 12; second, 10—brought up 10; third, 21—brought up 13; fourth, 18—brought up 12; fifth, 20—brought up 20; sixth, 24—brought up 12; seventh, 25—brought up 12, eighth, 15—brought up 11; ninth, 25—brought up 10, tenth, 21—brought up 9, eleventh, 25—brought up 11; twelfth, 21—brought up 11, thirteenth, 27—brought up 10, fourteenth, 11—brought up 10; fifteenth, 6—brought 5. Farrowed 301—brought up 177, so that, dividing 177 by 6, the years she lived, she brought up 29 each year and 3 over, on an average. It may be remarked that it was the practice to allow but half the farrow to be with her at a time."

* * *

American Stock Journal.—This valuable monthly entered upon its third volume in January, and, judging from its improved appearance and interesting and varied contents, must be achieving merited success. It is the only journal of its class in this country, and worthy the support of all specially engaged in breeding and improving domestic animals, or rendering them profitable. B. C. Linsley, [illegible]ditor and Proprietor, No 25 Park Row, New York. $1 [illegible]num.

* * *

Clinton Co.—Officers *President* [illegible] burgh *Secretary*—Wm. H Baily, Plattsburgh [illegible] Roswell O Baker, Beekmantown

Doings of Agricultural Societies.

New Jersey State Ag. Society.—The annual meeting of this Society was held at Trenton, Jan. 15th. The report of the Executive Committee shows that the operations of the Society were successful during the past year—and that of Mr Treasurer Saxton confirms it, peculiarly, by exhibiting a balance of $2,603.19 in the treasury. Board of officers elected for 1861: *President*—N. N. Halsted, Esq., Hudson county. *Vice Presidents*—A. W. Markley, Camden; N. S. Roe, Fillmore; A. V. Bennet, Flemington, Henry Hilliard, Peapack, Benjamin Haines, Elizabeth. *Secretary*—Wm. M. Force, Trenton. *Treasurer*—C. M. Saxton, Orange. *Executive Committee*—E. A. Doughty, Atlantic Co., John C. Deacon, Burlington, Cornelius Fornet, Bergen; John R. Graham, Camden, Hon. Downs Edmonds, Jr., Cape May; Benjamin F. Lee, Cumberland, John C. Littell, Essex; Col. John B. Jessup, Gloucester; C. Van Vorst, Hudson; David Sanderson, Hunterdon; U. B. Titus, Mercer, I. S. Bockalew, Middlesex; Dr A. V. Conover, Monmouth; B. S. Condit, Morris, John S. Forman, Ocean, M. J. Ryerson, Passaic, Hon. Joseph K. Riley, Salem, Joseph Thompson, Somerset; Thomas Lawrence, Sussex, William Reid, Union; Philip F. Brakely, Warren. A General Committee was also appointed, consisting of as many members in each county as there are members in the House of Assembly.

Illinois State Ag. Society.—Officers for 1861-2 *President*—W. H. Van Epps, Dixon. *Executive Committee*—Lewis Ellsworth, Ex-President, Naperville, and the following *Vice Presidents*—C. B. Denio, Galena; A. J. Mattson, Prophetstown, R. H. Holder, Bloomington; R. H. Whiting, Galesburg, J. W. Singleton, Quincy; A. B. McConnell, Springfield, Wm. Kile, Paris; W. S. Wait, Greenville; H. S. Osburn, Pinckneyville. *Board of Councillors*—Ex-Presidents Jas. N. Brown, Berlin; H. C. Johns, Decatur; C. W. Webster, Salem. *Treasurer*—J. W. Bunn, Springfield. *Rec. Secretary*—John Cook, Springfield. *Cor. Secretary*—John P. Reynolds. The Fair for 1861 is to be held at Chicago, Sept. 9–14. The Society offers cash premiums amounting to $20,000. Citizens prizes, $2,000. The Illinois Society must be in a prosperous condition to announce such liberal prizes.

NEW YORK LOCAL SOCIETIES.

Ontario Co. Ag. Society.—The annual meeting was held at Canandaigua, on the 6th inst. Officers elected for 1861: *President*—Lindley W. Smith, Farmington. The other officers are the same as last year, viz. *Vice Presidents*—W. G. Donilson, C. Edward Shepard, Theo. Sprague, John Robinson, John H. Benham, Sandford G. Angevine, Lester Sprague, David E. Hammond, Wm. Johnson, Sholwell Powell, Jared H. Boughton, Hiram Taft, Joshua Swan. *Cor. Secretary*—Gideon Granger, Canandaigua. *Rec. Secretary*—John W. Holberton, Canandaigua. *Treasurer*—George Gorham, Canandaigua.

The Seneca Falls Union Ag. Society last week elected the following officers for 1861. *President*—Geo. W. Randall. *Vice-President*—John Cuddeback. *Secretary*—Simeon Holton. *Treasurer*—Fred. R. Mundy. *Directors*—Philo Cowing, Lyman F. Crowell, John G. Hoster, John Lautenshlager, Stephen G. Armstrong, J. B. C. Vreeland. This Society held its first Fair last season. Its entire receipts were $1,405 67—expenditures, $1,032.28—leaving a balance of $373.54 in the treasury. This is an excellent beginning. The Courier says: "Efforts are to be made to have the Society incorporated by the Legislature, and we have no doubt that it will soon become one of the most prosperous Agricultural Societies of the State."

Canaseraga Ag'l and Mech'l Society.—At the annual meeting, held at Dansville, on the 2d inst., the following officers were elected: *President*—Hugh McCartney. *Vice Presidents*—Lester B. Faulkner, H. Dyer, W. W. Healey, W. T. Cutis, Geo. Coe. *Secretary*—Geo. A. Sweden. *Treasurer*—T. B. Grant.

Dryden Ag. Society (Tompkins Co.)—Officers for '61: *President*—Peter V. Snyder. *Vice President*—Charles Givens. *Secretary*—A. F. Houpt. *Treasurer*—Eli Spear. *Directors*—Jackson Jamison, Oliver Tyler. Fair to be held the last of September.

HORTICULTURAL.

HORTICULTURE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

WE are indebted to the Secretary, EBEN WRIGHT, Esq., for a copy of the Transactions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for 1860, a neat pamphlet of ninety-five pages. It contains the reports of several Committees, the award of premiums for the year, and other interesting matter.

The *Committee on Ornamental Gardening* visited the *Woodlawn Cemetery*, where they found everything kept in a very neat and tasteful manner, and were particularly pleased with many plants of that beautiful and too much neglected shrub, *Kalmia latifolia*, growing in the grounds, which were the most perfect they had ever seen. Plants of the *Rhododendron* and a great variety of shrubs and trees, all presented a thrifty appearance. At *Mount Auburn Cemetery* the Committee spent two hours, and say they think it safe to say that there is not in the world a cemetery that is in all respects equal to Mount Auburn. WILLIAM BACON'S *Pear Orchard* receives especial commendation. It is situated on what was once low marsh land, which has been filled up and prepared for the trees. A great quantity of spent tanbark has been used to render the soil light and friable. All the trees seem to be thrifty and healthy, producing large crops of fine fruit. After viewing the grounds of Hon. SAMUEL WALKER, of Roxbury, the Committee say the soil seems particularly well adapted not only to growing pears, but to growing pear trees.

The COMMITTEE ON FLOWERS report that the past season has been remarkably favorable for the production of flowers, and the floral shows were far superior to that of past years. They say they were "no longer frightened and horrified at those monstrosities called floral designs, nor was the Hall decorated with amaranthine and immortelle crosses, pinned up by a huge rosette in the shape of a large yellow dahlia or marigold. Instead, we had quite a number of pretty little baskets, showing into what dainty contrasts flowers could be arranged, and what pretty effects could be produced by skillful fingers." This point is of importance, and we commend it to the attention of managers of Horticultural Societies and amateurs everywhere.

The COMMITTEE ON FRUITS say that winter fruit, apples and pears, have ripened up a month or more earlier this year than usual, while the pears have an unusual tendency to decay. Early and severe frosts are assigned as the cause. Winter Nelis, Lawrence, and Glout Morceau were fully ripe in the autumn months, and before winter set fairly in there were comparatively few pears to be found. The Committee express doubt whether money can be made by growing either apples or pears at the prices obtained last fall.

STRAWBERRIES—The Committee say that no variety is more profitable than Hovey's Seedling when well cultivated. The Jenny Lind is a favorite variety to grow with the Hovey. "Of all the new sorts that have been introduced within a few years, few stand the test for this part of the country, while a host of such varieties as Peabody, Wilson's Albany, Richardson's Early, Late, and Cambridge, Scott's Seedling, McAvoy's Superior, and many other American sorts, to say nothing of the legion of foreign sorts, which have in almost every instance proved failures, have been, or soon will be, forgotten, as they deserve [illegible] The Committee thus speak of some new foreign sorts.

La Constance.—This is a new French variety exhibited for the first time this season, by Hovey & Co. Fruit very large, color of Hovey's Seedling, of regular conical form, quite firm, flavor good, great bearer, and may prove a valuable variety for amateurs.

Wonderful.—A new English variety, large size, coxcomb shape, dark color, firm, flavor good, said to be very productive.

May Queen.—Same origin as the last; small, early, flavor fair; same season as Jenny Lind; not desirable.

Bonte de St. Julien.—A foreign sort. Fruit large, color rich crimson, coxcomb shape, flavor peculiar, great bearer.

Duke de Malakoff.—Large size, color dark, flavor decidedly poor, not worthy of cultivation.

La Belle Bordelaise.—A French variety of strong Hautbois flavor, highly esteemed by some and as strongly disliked by others; very productive. To amateurs, who are fond of a strawberry of this flavor, it is of value. None of the foreign sorts rank high when compared with the best American varieties, and are not desirable for general cultivation.

Every one would not indorse the last remark regarding the quality of foreign strawberries.

Cherries.—The Black Tartarian takes the lead for size and quality. Black Eagle was as fine as usual. The Cumberland appeared very well. The Downer is, perhaps, all things considered, one of the most valuable sorts. It is grown extensively for market.

Raspberries.—The varieties most extensively cultivated are Franconia, which is grown by market gardeners, Knevett's Giant, which does not bear transportation as well as the former variety, though a very much better fruit; and the Brinckle's Orange, which is very handsome and productive, but not a favorite with the market farmers.

Currants.—A new and very pretty currant, the Gloire of Sablons, has been introduced from France. It is very small, acid, and valuable only on account of its unique and pretty striped appearance. The Cherry Currant, which is extensively cultivated, is a very large, coarse, acid variety, of decidedly poor quality. It may do for a market fruit until it is more fully known. La Caucase, Versaillaise, Red and White Grape, and many other sorts have been shown, which appear well, but, so far as your Committee can judge, the old sorts, Red and White Dutch, still maintain their position at the top of the list.

Gooseberries.—Two or three contributed English sorts grown to great perfection. Of the American varieties, Houghton's Seedling and Mountain Seedling take the lead. The latter is a new sort that originated among the Shakers at New Lebanon, New York, and on account of its erect habit, great productiveness, good size, and freedom from mildew, promises to be a valuable acquisition, though the fruit is not of the very highest quality.

Blackberries.—The Dorchester seems to be the favorite, while the Lawton is not extensively cultivated.

Peaches.—The crop of peaches was good this year, and some splendid specimens of Coolidge's Favorite, Crawford's Early, and other well known sorts, were on our tables. There is strong reason to believe that the peach is recovering from its diseased condition, and that we shall again be able to raise peaches as of old.

Grapes.—The crop of grapes this year has been almost an entire failure. We are obliged to go without grapes two years out of three. Even the Concord, that is claimed to be ten days or a fortnight earlier than the Isabella, did not, as a general thing, ripen this year. What is true of this variety, is true of all varieties of good quality. A few Dianas, Delaware, Hartford Prolific, and other grapes were shown, of very satisfactory appearance.

Allen's Hybrid and Allen's No. 13 were on exhibition several times, and were tested by your Committee.

The former is a grape of the best quality, and said to be hardy. If such should prove to be the case, and our seasons will allow of its ripening, it must be a valuable sort. Of the No. 13 we cannot say as much in praise, though time may prove it to be equally valuable. A grape was sent to the Society called the Ontario, but your Committee believe it to be identical with Union Village. It is evident that the cultivation of hardy grapes in this State has thus far been nearly or quite a failure, and yet every year there are new varieties announced that are superior to all others, the best grape in the world, and to be just what the public need, which, after a fair trial, prove to be no better, if as good as the old and well known varieties.

Pears.—The crop of this fruit has been remarkably large this year. Never, in the history of the country, have pears sold so low in Boston market as during the month of September of last year. Bartlett pears, of good quality, sold as low as two dollars per bushel, while those of inferior quality sold at a still lower rate. The question is often asked, what varieties shall we raise? One of our intelligent cultivators will answer, plant for six varieties, Bartlett, Seckel, Beurre Bosc, Fulton, Winter Nelis, and Buffum. Another would add, or substitute, Beurre d'Anjou, Merriam, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Flemish Beauty, Sheldon, Swan's Orange, and other sorts. The Glout Morceau has done unusually well this year. It is pretty certain if a soil is at all adapted to the production of pears, one cannot get far astray, if he plants these sorts, while experience may teach him that there are other varieties that can be grown to profit.

Particular attention is given by the Committee to seedlings, which we shall notice hereafter.

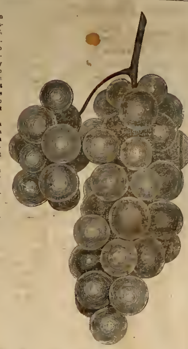
The COMMITTEE ON VEGETABLES make some very sensible remarks on the importance of the kitchen garden. "The kitchen garden is often regarded by those who may be following larger and more complicated pursuits of life, as a spot hardly deserving notice; yet to the intelligent and reflecting mind, what place can be made more attractive? No land pays a higher rate of interest than a well managed kitchen garden, and the quantity of vegetables it may be made to produce, under proper cultivation, is really astonishing. The eye, as well as the other senses, cannot fail to be pleased by a well stocked vegetable garden; it not only contributes largely to good living, but also to healthy exercise and refinement."

The Victoria Marrow pea is stated to be worthy the attention of every cultivator of this delicious vegetable. It is very productive, but not as early as the Champion of England. The Early Daniel O'Rourke pea is one of the earliest and most productive; a well grown peck measure of them, even full, will weigh in the pods about seven-and-a-half pounds. Myatt's Linnæus rhubarb is recommended as the best *early*, and Victoria the best *late*. The Cahoon does not merit cultivation in Massachusetts. The *best flavored* variety ever tasted by the Committee is a seedling variety called Early Prince Imperial. It is peculiarly adapted to family use, though it may not prove sufficiently productive for the market gardener. The Hubbard squash is still receiving the highest praise from all that desire a fine squash for the table. A special premium in plate, valued at $25, was awarded to JAMES J. H. GREGORY for its introduction. This is right. If Mr. GREGORY will now discard every other squash and grow pure seed, he will confer a still greater benefit upon community. Unless this is done we fear that in a few years it will be impossible to obtain pure seed of this valuable squash, which we consider the only winter variety worthy of cultivation.

THE OPORTO GRAPE.

AMONG the new grapes we had an opportunity to examine the past season was the *Oporto*, shown by E. WARE SYLVESTER, of Lyons, N. Y. It is a black grape, and we have no doubt is a native. It will never become popular for eating, but is very strongly recommended for wine. The purple coloring matter under the skin makes the wine of a rich Port color, and it is said in other respects to resemble Port wine. We have tasted this wine, and it is at least equal to most of our native wines.

Mr. SYLVESTER furnishes us with the following facts in regard to this grape, and also an engraving of a bunch which was taken by our engraver from a cluster of the fruit the past autumn:



"A few years since my attention was directed to a grape cultivated by farmers and amateurs in this vicinity, for the manufacture of wine for medicinal, sacramental, and social purposes. The cut is a good representation, drawn by actual measurement from a cluster this season. The skin is black, covered with bloom; the juice is thick, and when fully ripe, dark red, staining the hands a purple color, and imparting to wine made from it, without water, the dark color usual to Port wine.

There is an opinion that the original vine was given to Miss or Mrs. Dunlap, by a ship captain, and that he brought it direct from the city of Oporto, which would make it a foreign grape; but the growth of the wood, the shape and texture of the leaves, its perfect hardiness, with the vines never laid down, in lat. 43 deg. north, lead me to the conclusion that it is an American seedling, though it may be the child of foreign parents. Having asked the opinion of N. Longworth, Esq., on the subject, he writes, 'If the Oporto is perfectly hardy, I cannot think it a foreign grape.'

The wine made from it has the flavor and peculiar bouquet of old Port, and is pronounced by good judges nearly or quite equal to the best imported Port; and there is no doubt in my own mind that from this vine may be manufactured a wine which would supersede the foreign article."

AMERICAN NUTS.

OUR fondness for everything foreign sends us abroad for many things, which, after all the trouble and expense necessary to obtain them, are no better, sometimes really inferior, to what we have at home. This unpatriotic partiality for the products of other countries, to the neglect of what grows or may be grown on our own soil, or manufactured in our shops, has long been the subject of severe reproach by our public speakers and writers; especially political economists of the Protectionist school; and much logic and some force has been expended to teach our people that iron, wool, flax, silk, &c., and their manufactures can be as successfully produced here as elsewhere. With no intention of invoking legislative aid for the encouragement of American nut-growing, and no ambition to convince the American producer that foreign nut-bearing trees may be so reconciled to our soil and climate as to yield fruit in their native abundance and perfection, I call attention to the subject for the sake of pointing out the comparative neglect with which the American nut-eating public treat the fruits of our own forest trees, and the, perhaps, consequent indifference cultivators feel in regard to this branch of agricultural economy.

That the different kinds of American nuts, with perhaps the occasional exception of chestnuts, are accounted by our people inferior to the foreign varieties, is plainly manifest in groceries and on hotel tables. Go into any establishment of the former kind, of any pretension, and inquire for almonds, filberts, English walnuts, Brazil nuts, and what you ask for is almost sure to be produced; call at the same place for black walnuts, butternuts, hickory nuts, chestnuts, beech nuts, and there is no probability that you will find all, quite likely none of them. So, too, at public houses where nuts form part of the dessert at dinner, the table is invariably supplied with imported varieties, to the (so far as my experience goes,) utter exclusion of native sorts. Indeed, to such an extent is the prejudice in favor of foreign over home grown nuts carried, that there is little doubt a majority of our city population, as well as scores of country people, are more familiar with the flavor of almonds and Brazil nuts than that of butternuts and hickory nuts. It is with American nuts somewhat as with American fruits; hundreds of children living in the country, in localities well adapted to the growth of the finest fruits, eat their half dozen or more oranges each summer, who have never tasted or seen a pear or peach of any but the commonest kinds.

A comparison of the flavors of domestic with those of foreign nuts must convince any unprejudiced judge that the preference shown by us to the latter is not founded solely on their superior merit. Take, for instance, the black walnut and the Brazil nut, the former, perhaps the coarsest of native, the latter, one of the least delicate of foreign nuts, and what advantage has the Brazil nut over the walnut, that tempts us to buy the one while baskets of the other are suffered to go to waste on our farms? Let specimens of both be submitted to an uneducated taste—one that has not learned to inquire under what sun a fruit was ripened before it can judge of its qualities—and I think the probabilities are, that the Brazil nut will be voted rank and greasy in comparison with the other. The almond probably stands first of all nuts in general estimation, and so far as flavor is concerned, it is perhaps entitled to this distinction; but it has an objectionable dryness and consequent hardness, rendering it more difficult of mastication, and less satisfactory than if it possessed greater moisture; comparing its excellencies with those of my favorite nut, I think the almond needs its artificial advantages of foreign growth, importation and high price to enable it to keep place above the rich, fine, plump, well cured fruit of the hickory. Then, there is the delicious butternut—the best of them fully equal to the English walnut, and far superior to the filbert—and the beech nut, small, but of exquisite sweetness—if it were not vulgar to choose American nuts, what need would there be of bringing hither those of foreign countries at such expenditure of money, except for the satisfaction of curiosity, or to make up a deficiency in the home supply? The impression seems to be that our domestic nuts, which can be had for the picking up, are of no value—well enough for children, perhaps,—but that only the choice kinds, such as are brought long distances, and cost much money, are worthy the attention of grown-up people.

But the low opinion in which American nuts are held by our own population, ought not to discourage the raising of them; its effect should be rather to stimulate attempts to improve and popularize them. The inferior lots of domestic nuts which are often brought to market, are, perhaps, a partial excuse for the preference of nut-eaters for foreign varieties. Doubtless many persons who have bought and eaten chestnuts and hickory nuts have never opened a plump, full-sized, full-flavored specimen of either kind. It is a principle in Political Economy, that demand creates supply; the converse of this is true in an important sense; the production of an article of improved quality excites demand where none existed for the original or inferior type. That our domestic nuts are susceptible of some degree of improvement we can easily believe by comparing the fruit produced by different trees of the same kind. From one chestnut, or hickory, or butternut tree you will gather large, plump, full-meated, sweet-tasting nuts; another produces small, shriveled, mean-flavored ones. My limited experience in nut-gathering goes to show that the quality and abundance of the fruit depend, in a great measure, on the situation of the tree. I have picked up more and larger chestnuts under a tree standing out in a field, apart from other, or, at least, many other trees, than I could ever find under one of the same kind in the woods. Yet, a favorable situation does not always insure good fruit; there seems to be a difference in the nature of trees of the same kind. I know a fine, thrifty hickory standing in a cultivated field, many rods from any other tree, which has always borne fruit of small size and of second-rate quality.

This subject of the improvement of American nuts is well worthy the attention of amateur as well as professional fruit-growers. If it be true that nut-bearing trees yield more and better fruit in an open exposure than in a close forest, to what point of excellence might not their products be brought by careful cultivation. Is there any reason why they should not be susceptible of improvement as well as the apple, peach, pear, plum, cherry, or strawberry? Thanks to those who have devoted themselves to the production of new and improved kinds of this latter and similar fruits, we have now an abundant supply of them, answering to every shade of appetite, and extending through the whole season from spring till late autumn. Apples, indeed, we have in winter, and pears and grapes may, in time, come to be common at that season; but nuts seem designed to complete the variety of winter fruits. Their rich, concentrated, oily nature indicates their peculiar fitness as food for cold weather. Then, let each of us plant a few seeds of nut-bearing trees, the best we can obtain—and try what garden culture will do for them. They will at least serve for ornament; and what nobler shade tree can be desired than a well-grown chestnut or hickory? Indeed, the walnut, butternut, and beech are far handsomer than the universal locust. And let us live in anticipation of the day when our DOWNINGS, WILDERS, KIRTLANDS, ELLWANGERS, BARRYS, and others, may give their names to improved varieties of American nuts.

South Livonia, N. Y., 1861. A.

PEACHES AND PEACH BORER.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Now that general attention is being directed to the choicer kinds of fruits, especially *dwarf pears* and *grapes*, is not that old favorite, the peach, somewhat neglected. Being interested *prospectively* in quite an extensive young orchard of the latter, I have watched your very useful paper with unusual anxiety for "practical notes," from successful cultivators, of this noble, but rather transient fruit. The *peach* is popularly regarded as the most delicious orchard fruit of our climate; and certainly in a pecuniary view, considering its early bearing, its adaptability to rather poor soils, and the small amount of labor required, it stands at the head of them all, at least in those sections of our country known as "the peach districts." The large amount of money drawn from some of the cities during the "peach season," is a fact worthy of note by suburban farmers in places where this fruit is known to succeed very well. From a pretty close observation for several years past, I am of the opinion that Michigan will soon rank as a great fruit-growing State. Apples, pears, grapes, and strawberries, have yielded in profusion, and all who witnessed our peach trees, literally loaded down with Red and Yellow Rare Ripes, the past season, will agree with me that the *peach orchard* (precarious though it may be in some seasons) is an "institution" that will not be ignored by us at present.

I would recommend setting the trees one rod apart in the rows, and the following varieties as the best shippers, and most profitable for a successional orchard here,—ripening through six weeks; usually from the middle or last week in August, viz:—Troth's Early Red, Serrate Early York, Grosse Mignonne, Cooledge's Favorite, Large Early York, Yellow Rare Ripe, Crawford's Early, Old Mixon Free, Red Cheek Melocoton, and Crawford Late. The only formidable enemy to the peach tree in this part of the West, is the "Grub," or larva of the *Egeria Exitiosa*, which works *between* the bark and the wood near the collar, and therefore much easier reached than the "Apple Borer," which encases itself, through a tortuous course, in the *hard wood*.

Nearly all the supposed winter-killed peach trees that have come under my observation, were those first undermined, or girdled, through total neglect of heading this insidious destroyer. I have been reviewing pretty carefully the score of preventives that have been suggested, and have come to the conclusion that the simplest, and therefore the most practical way of abating this *nuisance*, is the heaping of mounds of earth, eight or twelve inches high, around the base of the tree, after a thorough knife worming in May. The earth may be leveled, and the tree re-examined, late in the fall, after the Beetle has ceased laying her eggs, which is usually done in June and September.

It would be perhaps useless to enter into a lengthy explanation of the rationale of this treatment,—but would state that the plan has been found to work well in practice, where carried out faithfully every year. L. W. S.

Grand Rapids, Mich., 1861.

Horticultural Notes.

WEATHER AT NEWBURGH.—Mr. DOWNING writes us, February 8th:—"Very cold again this morning, 14° below zero—yet, on the whole, we have had a mild, pleasant winter, except a *few* very cold days. January 13th, 20° below zero. Peach buds all killed."

GENESEE VALLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this Society was held at the Court House, Rochester, on the 8th inst., and the following officers elected for the ensuing year: *President*—JAMES VICK. *Vice Presidents*—Jacob Gould, L. A. Ward, Wm. A. Reynolds. *Secretary*—C. W. Seelye. *Treasurer*—F. W. Glen.

CHICAGO GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.—The annual election of this Society took place on Monday, January 7th, at Chicago, Ill.; when the following officers were elected: *President*—C. D. BRAGDON. *Vice Presidents*—J. Worthington, C. Layton. *Secretary*—Edgar Saunders. *Treasurer*—J. C. Ure. *Executive Board*—C. D. Bragdon, J. Worthington, J. C. Ure, J. C. Grant, A. T. Williams. *Librarian*—William Lombard.

LOSS OF THE PEACH CROP.—The severe cold of Thursday night, the 5th inst., has no doubt destroyed the peach buds in this section of the State, and over a large extent of country. The thermometer, in sheltered places in this city, indicated 13° below zero, but in some exposed places in the country, it was much lower. We have examined buds from several orchards, and have not yet found one sound, or that would produce fruit.

Inquiries and Answers.

PEARS ON QUINCE STOCK.—What kinds of pears flourish best on quince stock? Will the Louise Bonne de Jersey do well? What time is best to graft?—I. H. M., *Sequat, N. Y.*

Louise Bonne de Jersey does well on quince—nothing better. Our nurserymen have not yet found out all the varieties that are adapted to dwarf culture, but enough is known to furnish a good list. In addition to the one mentioned, there is—Doyenne d'Ete, Tyson, Rostiezer, Beurre Diel, Buffum, Stevens' Genesee, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Vicar of Winkfield, Glout Morceau, and many others that do admirably on the quince root. Pears are mostly propagated on the quince root by budding, which may be done as soon as the buds are sufficiently matured. The American Pomological Society recommend the following varieties for quince culture:—Beurre Superfin, Beurre Hardy, Buffum, Belle Lucrative, Belle Epine Dumas, Beurre d'Amanlis, Beurre d'Anjou, Beurre Diel, Beurre Langelier, Catillac, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Doyenne d'Alencon, Easter Beurre, Figue d'Alencon, Glout Morceau, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Napoleon, Nouveau Poiteau, Rostiezer, Soldat Laboureur, St. Michael Archange, Urbaniste, Uvedale's St. Germain, (for baking,) Vicar of Winkfield, White Doyenne.

SAVING APPLE SEEDS.—Will you, or some of your subscribers of experience in the nursery business, inform me the best way of sowing apple seeds for raising seedlings for grafting? Whether it would be proper to freeze the seeds, or soak them in water before sowing, or not?—A SUBSCRIBER, *Holley, N. Y.*, 1861.

We would mix the apple seeds at once with sand, slightly moist, and put it away in a cool place, secure from mice, until time for planting, which is as soon as the ground is in working order. Apple seeds, as soon as taken from the pomace in the fall, should be dried and stored away as described, if not planted at once. We once knew a lot of apple seeds so much dried when received as to be considered worthless. They were placed in a barrel with warm water, and allowed to soak for six hours. Then taken out and partially dried, and placed in boxes, with sand, for about ten days, and planted. Nearly all vegetated.

Domestic Economy.

RECIPES FOR ICE CREAM.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In reply to ANNIE I would say, take one quart of new milk, add half pound coffee sugar, half dozen well beaten eggs, and scald until it nearly boils. After it becomes cold, add flavor to the taste, and freeze as soon as you can. This recipe I have used in my business for several years, and find it as good as any I am acquainted with.—CONFECTIONER, *Homer, N. Y.*, 1861.

To one quart of milk add one teacup white sugar. Heat the milk scalding hot (with care not to scorch it,) add to the milk four eggs, well beaten, and let it cook till as thick as porridge. Season with strawberry, or to suit the taste. Stir occasionally while cooling and freezing.—JENNIE, *Abington, Pa.*

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—In your issue for Jan. 26, "ANNIE," of Brockport, wishes some of your readers to send a recipe for making Ice Cream.

WHIPPED ICE CREAM.—To one quart of milk add three teaspoonfuls of flour, stir it very smooth and boil over a slow fire till it is cooked. Set away to cool, then sweeten quite sweet, and flavor to your taste. To every quart add three pints or two quarts of thick cream. (Sweet cream of course.) Whip the cream and mix it in. Judge by the taste whether it is flavored and sweetened enough; if not, add more, stirring it thoroughly, and then freeze.

PHILADELPHIA ICE CREAM.—Two quarts of sweet cream; three spoonfuls of arrow root; whites of eight eggs, well beaten; one pound of loaf sugar. Boil the milk, thicken with the arrow root, and pour the whole on the eggs. Flavor and freeze.

The rule for freezing it is to use one-third salt and two-thirds ice, chopped fine.—RURAL READER, *Palermo, N. Y.*, 1861.

A BATCH OF CAKES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—As I have some good recipes which I have not seen in your paper, and thinking that they might not come amiss, I send you some. If these meet with a good reception, I will try again.

SILVER CAKE.—Two cups white sugar; 1 cup butter; 1 cup sweet milk; the whites of six eggs beaten to a stiff froth; teaspoonful cream tartar; half do. soda.

GOLD CAKE.—Two cups brown sugar; two-thirds cup butter; two-thirds cup sweet milk; yolks of six eggs, and one whole egg; 1 teaspoonful cream tartar; half teaspoonful soda.

SODA JELLY CAKE.—One cup sweet cream; 2 cups sugar; 2 eggs; half teaspoonful soda; 1 of cream tartar; flour to the consistency of batter cakes. Bake on tins about an inch thick, pile on a plate with a layer of jelly between each.

DONATION CAKE.—One and three-fourths pounds sugar; 1 pound butter; 1¼ pounds flour; 1 pint sweet milk; 5 eggs; teaspoonful [illegible] fruit if you please.

I have tried the whole of them and know them to be good. JENNIE PERKINS.

Huntington, Feb., 1861.

THE TOOTHACHE.—An exchange gives the following:—"My dear friend," said H., "I can cure your toothache in ten minutes." "How? how?" I inquired. "Do it in pity." "Instantly," said he. "Have you any alum?" "Yes." "Bring it and some common salt." They were produced. My friend pulverized them, mixed them in equal quantities, then wet a small piece of cotton, causing the mixed powder to adhere, and placed it in my hollow tooth. "There," said he, "if that does not cure you I will forfeit my head. You may tell this to every one, and publish it everywhere. The remedy is infallible." It was as he predicted. On the introduction of the mixed alum and salt, I experienced a sensation of coldness, and with it—the alum and salt—I cured the torment of the toothache.

HOW TO CURE BACON.—In answer to the question. "how to cure bacon by the mild process," a late number of the *Irish Gazette* gives the following directions:—"Singe off the hair, and scrape thoroughly clean; when cut up, rub the flesh side well with common salt, and pack the pieces on top of each other on a tray with a gutter round it to catch the brine; once every four or five days the salt should be changed, and the flitches moved, placing those on top at the bottom; five or six weeks of this treatment will suffice to cure the bacon, when they may be hung up to dry, first rubbing them over with coarse bran, or any sort of sawdust except deal; if smoking be preferred, hang in a chimney; if not, in a dry, airy part of the kitchen not too near the fire.

WISCONSIN CAKE.—One cup milk; two eggs; one cup sugar; half cup butter; two cups flour; two teaspoons cream tartar, one soda.

GINGER DROP CAKE.—Two cups molasses; one of butter; one of sweet milk; one spoonful of ginger; half do. of cinnamon; half tablespoonful saleratus,—stir and drop on buttered tins.—NELLIE, *Le Roy, N. Y., January*, 1861.

PREMIUM FRUIT CAKE.—Two-thirds of a cup of butter; one and a half of sugar; 3 eggs; a cup of milk; four of flour; a full cup of chopped raisins; two-thirds of a cup of currants; the same of citron; two small teaspoons of cream tartar; one of soda; spices to suit.—MRS. G. W. ALLEN, *Rochester, N. Y.*

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

"D. B. DE LAND & Co.'s Saleratus forever," shouted KATE, as she ran up the stairs, followed by BRIDGET, with a freshly baked pan of biscuit in her hands. "DE LAND'S Saleratus forever." They were indeed tempting, and no wonder that the girls were delighted with their first experiment with this favorite of housekeepers. This Saleratus is perfectly pure, healthful, reliable, and of uniform quality. Manufactured and for sale at wholesale by D. B. DE LAND & Co., Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y. Sold also by all dealers.

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

OH, HUSH THAT SONG.

BY CLARA F. TAWOKE

Oh, hush that song,— the tears have started,—
And broken spells my soul have bound,
The lute-like voice of one departed
Blends with the music's melting sound

The summer wind was softly blowing,
And warbling many a gladsome bird
And Summer's glorious flowers were glowing,
When last that plaintive song I heard.

'Twas when the eye of day was closing
(Oh, many and many a year gone by,)
With one dear hand in mine reposing
I gazed upon the sunset sky

The streams meandering through the meadows
Were glittering in the golden glow,
And silently the lengthening shadows
Were stealing o'er the vale below.

Those tuneful lips that song were breathing,—
Those lips forever silent now,—
While radiant youth and joy were wreathing
Her glowing cheek and beaming brow.

That peerless one since then has faded,
And meekly closed her dark eye's lid,—
Those glossy locks no more are braided,
That bright brow 'neath the turf is hid

The hand and heart, so fondly plighted,
Lie mouldering in a Southern grave,
While he, whose deathless love was plighted,
Still wanders, lonely, o'er life's wave

Then hush that song,— the tears have started,—
And broken spells my soul have bound;
The silvery voice of one departed
Blends with the music's magic sound.

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[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE BROKEN-HEARTED MINISTER.

BY HETTIE HOPEFUL.

Poor, broken-hearted man, said Mrs. Toot, how I pity him. His wife is not a christian,— then, recollecting herself, she added, she did not know as she ought to say that; but she did not come to communion, seldom to church, and was never known to engage in works that were expected of a minister's wife. She seldom called or visited anywhere. Her health was poor, she said, her family large, and seemed to need her constant care, and so she thought herself excusable from all the duties incumbent on a minister's wife. He always went alone to call on the sick, or visit the members of his church. Poor, broken-hearted man, I wonder he married such a woman!

When she had concluded this sympathetic, but uncharitable harangue, we ventured to remark that we supposed she was his choice, or, at least, ought to have been, since man is the one to whom society accords the right to choose a life partner.

But I think he was not much acquainted with her when he married her.

Ought he not to have formed a better acquaintance first, instead of hastily rushing into matrimony before ascertaining whether she would be a suitable companion for life? If people would exercise prudence, patience, and honesty, in the selection of life partners, there would be fewer broken hearts, and fewer petitions for divorce than now. Marrying, and unmarrying, is not as pleasant an affair on either side; but society as well as individuals are much to blame for such occurrences.

Instead of first being prepared for the active duties of life, the mere girl is taught to think she must have a beau, to secure which, she must be fashionably dressed, and early sent into society. The mere boy often thinks himself a man. Over-estimating his capacities, and ignorant of the many duties incumbent on manhood, he breathes love to the first thoughtless girl who will encourage him. In many instances, they as thoughtlessly and hastily marry, afterward to learn the fact that they are unharmoniously mated. And instead of wisely consenting to differ peacefully in opinion, each making great sacrifices, as duty dictates under such circumstances, discord and disunion is hastily sought, which proves a fallacious remedy.

No life is all happiness, all pleasure, or all prosperity. Stern duties, earnest labor, sad reverses, must, at some period of life, be shared by all. One may enjoy prosperity to-day, or this year,— another day or year adversity may be his, and prosperity another's. Such is life,— a changing scene in the present state of society, and they who would enjoy it must be contented in the circumstances in which they find themselves, until time, industry, honesty and persevering effort can improve those circumstances.

Individuals are at fault in encouraging hasty marriages. Pretended friends are ready to advise, encourage and recommend, unsolicited, some friend or dependent, to rid themselves of a burthen, or secure some other object in view. Thus aided and encouraged, many thoughtlessly assume responsibilities for which they are unprepared, united with partners whose thoughts are unharmonious, unless Charity, that thinketh no evil—endureth all things—suffereth long and is kind— hopeth all things— be made a daily practical affair. If God's ministers cannot exercise this Charity, who will?

But she says her health is poor, and her family seem constantly to need her care and attention.

Why, then, should she be expected always to attend church, or co-operate with her husband in his duties connected therewith? Was he not employed with the understanding that he had a large family, and a wife in feeble health? Why expect or demand her services under such circumstances? Why withhold sympathy and charity under such circumstances, making her feel that she is scarcely welcome to their house of worship, though she seldom can go there? May not his seeming broken-heartedness arise from this very source, instead of any defect of his wife's? True, a minister and church will be more prosperous when his wife visits with him, and co-operates with him in his work. She also would be the gainer, both in spiritual and temporal things, though it is not her absolute duty, as she is not employed to do this. When she assumes this work, she finds unexpected bread cast upon the waters. When her domestic labors are too great for this, and she has no one else to assist, it would be better for her husband to assist what he can; he, no less than every other human being, needs some muscular exercise to secure health. Let him not think it unmanly to assist in domestic work in-doors, when the cares and the health of his wife demands assistance which she cannot otherwise procure. He can do much to relieve her of many domestic duties; affording her time to accompany him in many of his visits,— then her spirits and his would be greatly refreshed, and Zion's work become more pleasant and prosperous.

In ministerial visits, the poor, the aged, and the infirm, though residing at a distance, ought not to be forgotten. If they are not paying members, they would be more likely to become such than if they were neglected, and it ought to be remembered that their mite is more than the rich man's treasures. Beside, they make a greater sacrifice, and more effort to attend church than those nearer, and should be as highly esteemed. Israel's Shepherd is to care for his whole flock,— to look after the missing ones,— nurse the aged, and the tender lambs,— this is his work as God's agent, and his reward God giveth him in His own good time, not man. When he does this great duty faithfully, God blesses and crowns his labors with success. Let him call on all within his precincts, members and non members, and his kindly sympathy and attention would be appreciated, and his kind words be cherished, even by the most seemingly neglected and hardened. In this way more souls might be saved, and blessings poured upon his head, which would make him feel there was no cause for him to appear to others as a broken-hearted man.

Otisco, Onon Co, N. Y, 1861

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[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

WILLIE IS DEAD.

"Willie is dead!" Our informant was a neighbor who left a few minutes after, and now the words are passed from one member of the household to another in subdued accents. The children drop their toys, and sit silent and thoughtful. The baby is gathered closer to its mother's bosom, for she is again reminded that death is in the land, and her own darlings are not safe. A merry little fellow comes dancing in, shouting to his hickory horse, until he reaches the center of the room, when he stops and looks wonderingly around the little group, sitting there so silently and solemnly that even childhood is awed. "Willie is dead," says his mother, softly, and the reins fall from his hands, and the cane he had brought from the garret drops upon the floor. He never saw any body dead but once, and then they lifted him up so that he could look over into the coffin where Grandpapa lay, so pale and cold. It is hard for him to think of the bright-eyed, sunny-haired little Willie as *dead*. He wondered if his face looked pinched and wrinkled, like Grandpapa's, and whether he should ever see him, or hear his laugh again. Ah, little wonderer! Death has much of mystery for older ones than you.

If this be the effect of the simple news of his death in another home, what must it be in the one where it occurred? How anxiously watched the parents thro' the night hours; how they counted the fast failing pulse, and gathered hope from every look of recognition; but just as the sun was rising, the last life-drop vanished silently as the dew from flowers. Then broke forth the long-sealed fountain of tears in the father's heart, and the mother's wild grief refuses to be comforted. Coldly and harshly grates upon their ears the kindly meant condolence of friends, and even the voice of the man of God, as he reads from the volume of love, words of sympathy and promise, but adds to their distress. All the father's ambition, all the mother's hope, seem to be centered upon *this one*, and they hardly know, until sickness has seized upon another, that all their children are alike dear.

In after years, when time has gathered much of dust, and some of ashes, into the Urn of Memory, when those who are left have wrung their hearts with a more bitter anguish, they will look back upon this dispensation as one of mercy and of love,— but they cannot see it now, and many, many tears are shed over little Willie's grave.

There is something sweet in the death of a child. We love to look upon the placid beauty of its face ere passion has set his seal upon it. Life does not seem to be rent by such a force from a being like that, as from the strong man, whose heart is set upon the world. There may be, doubtless there are, times in the life of every one, when the thought of death is not altogether unpleasant; when we have grasped at the enjoyments of earth and secured but their shadow; when the flowers we attempted to pluck have shut themselves up within a shell, shrinking from our touch, and the tempting fruit has "turned to ashes on the lips;" when each ideal pleasure has proved an *ignis fatuus* that fled at our approach,— a bubble that burst at the touch, or a gilded arrow, "piercing us through with many sorrows." then does death sometimes seem like leaving behind us all trouble, and entering with joy a haven of rest. Yet we generally cling to life with tenacity, even though there be more of bitter than sweet in our cup, and more of shadows than sunbeams on our pathway; and we are continually seeking for gold amid the glitter, and substance in the show. We look upon *true* friendship as an immortal thing, and we do well,— we think of its earthly embodiment as not lasting, and 'tis reason; for amid the varied changes of life, early friends sometimes forsake us, and where it is not so, death often claims them just when we prize them most, and we learn,— often late, it is true, but always do we learn,— that nothing of earth is sure and abiding.

The Christian's faith is barely sufficient to stand the test of the change of worlds. I have seen the aged disciple falter when he came to the threshhold, and gladly turn back to life; but I have seen those, too, whose confidence was unshaken as they neared the "Dark Valley," and leaning unwaveringly upon the strong arm of God, they passed triumphantly to their immortal home. ***

Alden, Erie Co, N. Y., 1861

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A Thought for Husbands.— Rev. Dr. Thomas Brainerd thus feelingly admonishes married men: "I would ask husbands to appreciate those who make the joy of their dwellings. Are not the kindnesses of wives often unnoted, unthanked, unregarded? They are shut out from the world's applause; let them rest in the assurance of your gratitude and consideration. When you see them cold and still in death, it will not grieve you to remember that your love has thrown sunshine into the shade of their allotment, that your prayers and example have given them aid in the right training of your children."

◆

Loss of Children.— In the first days of affliction, words are but poor consolation, *for we know* how bitter the cup of their sorrow. Yet words even, from those who have trodden the same dark way, may be like balm in the wounds, for there is a companionship in grief. We weep with those who are weeping, thanking God that the first keenness of such agony is not lasting, or else we should die under these afflictions.

◆

All Should Learn to Sing.— As it is commanded of God that all should sing, so all should make conscience of learning to sing, as it is a thing that cannot be done decently without learning. Those, therefore, who neglect to learn to sing, live in sin, as they neglect what is necessary to their attending upon of the ordinances of God.—*Jonathan Edwards.*

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New Yorker.]

A PATRIOTIC DREAM.

BY R. H. BULLOCK

With visions strange, that smile or lower,
Imagination teems,
When we, at midnight's silent hour,
Are in the land of dreams.
At times a counterpart they seem,—
The sequel of a play,
A sort of afterpiece they gleam
To thoughts we have by day

But oft they come, as if by chance,
In Fancy's endless train,—
With wildest phantoms sore entrance
The frenzied sleeper's brain
A subject unto either class
It falls my lot to be,—
And let me tell you what did pass
The other night with me.

They took me to the land of Penn,
Where, in that same old hall,
Were met again those valiant men,
Who burst the Lion's thrall.
The "Father of his Country" there
Was chosen to preside,—
Never, in portrait, was his air
So firm and dignified.

And he was there, whose master hand
Had fixed the lightning's path,—
And he, whose thrilling tones, so grand,
Did rouse the people's wrath.
He, with his mighty pen, was there,
From Monticello's shade,
With Quincy's dauntless chief to share,—
A giant pair they made

There "Richard Henry Lee" arose,
And said, "I am resolved
Our Union — though evil minds propose —
Shall never be dissolved.
Came no discussion — not a word —
All eyes with fire did glow,
Stern from each patriarch was heard,
"*No, never — never — no!*"

Like a shrill echo came that sound
From every warrior's grave,
Who foremost fell on battle ground —
His life for Freedom gave.
From heroes' bones, in ocean deep,
Entombed in darkness low,
Did ring — it startled me from sleep —
That loud, resounding "*No!*"

Borus, N Y, 1861

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[Written for Moore's Rural New Yorker.]

THE WEST.

The West is settled with people of every latitude, from the Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. The New Englander, fresh from his rocky soil; the straightforward New Yorker; the genial, careless Southerner,— all unite upon the common ground of the West, to build their homes. Nor are these all; for years emigration has been rolling westward from the shores of the Old World. England, Germany, Ireland,— indeed, all Europe send hither their sons, and often, in the same community, the representatives of half a dozen different nations live and labor. The effects of this diversity of character are visible in various ways.

The first effect is the want of a common sympathy. The influences under which each individual has been reared are so different from those which have surrounded his neighbor, that the people possess little in common. Hence there is an isolation in social feeling. Many a parent has keenly felt the force of this truth, as he has seen his children go out from the protecting shelter of home, to be subjected to the influences of evil associations. Western society, formed of the crudest materials, and without those restraints of public sentiment so powerfully felt in the older States, has become to some degree reckless. The active scenes of business life occupy time and attention to such an extent that friendly intercourse is almost wholly excluded. Men are constantly incited to exertion by the hope of gaining wealth, and however varied may be the character of the people in other respects, they are united in the rush for gold. With fascinated gaze they fix their eyes upon the glittering treasure as the one thing to be desired. Often the barriers of principle are thrown down, conscience is hushed, and duty bidden to stand aside. Honesty is coupled with simplicity, and dishonesty receives the name of shrewdness. Such is the state of public opinion, and vigilant must be the eye, and careful the guardianship, that will shield the young from its dreadful effects.

Another effect of the great variety of character in the West is a lack of unity in pushing forward the interests of education and morality. Forests are becoming cities, and beautiful villages are gemming the wide rolling prairies. Smoothly cut meadows and cultivated fields everywhere meet the eye of the traveler. But while the physical resources of the country are thus being drawn out, its mental and moral condition is apt to be regarded with indifference. Unless a country is favored with cultivated minds as well as highly tilled lands, it will not be able to educate its sons or make its own laws. How can there be any advance in this direction without united effort? Political changes are often brought about by intrigue; aspiring men, by working upon the prejudices of people, exalt themselves to positions of influence, and thus accomplish their selfish designs. But the teacher and moral reformer must work by nobler means. They must lift high the standard of moral purity, and in the face of opposition, and amidst discouragement, toil on, sure of final success.

There is another and more favorable effect arising from the diversity of elements in the West. Amidst so many different tastes and beliefs, there is a wider range of thought, and more comprehensive views, than in the older sections of country where constant intercourse and common sympathy build up a unity of sentiment. The New Englander on his Granite hills repels from his cold sympathies the fiery southerner; while the native of the Cotton States disdains the calculating Yankee. The matter of fact Englishman and the stolid German view with distrust the boisterous Irishman; but thrown together in the New World of the West, their interests gradually merge together. As business brings them into contact with one another, prejudice melts away, and the peculiarities once so strongly marked, slowly disappear. Thus the western man, if he but hold firmly to right principles, is in a position to build up a noble character. And the West, as a country, possesses those characteristics that will qualify her to mediate between extreme sections of country, and to exert a controlling influence upon the affairs of the nation. Time may so assimilate her people that unity of sentiment shall prevail where important interests are concerned, but not to such a degree as to render them bigoted in their views, or partial in action. Her greatest danger lies in a disregard of virtue and religion. Thousands are in her midst who, in oppressed Europe, learned to associate religion and tyranny. These, while they build up her interests with one hand, sow with the other the seeds of future ruin. Peopled mostly by the vigorous and impulsive, the restraints of prudence and virtue are often little regarded. Change is inscribed upon all her banners. Whether her advance movements shall result in true progress or not depends upon their character.

"The rudiments of empire here
Are plastic yet and warm,
The chaos of a mighty world
Is rounding into form"

Happy shall he be that upon those moving elements makes impressions of enduring excellence.

Butler, Wis., 1861 H. Osborn

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[Written for Moore's Rural New Yorker.]

VOICES.

Human is the lute whose quivering tones had floated down with their soulful harmonies, touching the hidden spring which unlocks the door of our hearts' holy of holies,— but the *echo* of that rich, soft music lingers still. And it is *ever* thus. Earth's voices come to us in the still hush of years gone by, murmuring not as loudly, it may be, as those of the present, but winding in 'mid the loud, discordant sounds of every-day life, like the low, dreamy warbling of a bird, as the twilight shadows deepen, and it sinks to rest— tending oft to bring peace and quiet, where the spirit was restless and troubled. When the sad, sweet bells of twilight chime,— when, in the grey east she glances with her mournful eyes, and the far-off hills are tipped with the golden sunset,— when night softly drops her silvery robe, and pale Cynthia looks down in all her queenly splendor as she wends her way up through the stars, perchance some of them the *morning* stars which first sang together, hear ye not a voice, silent, but sublime and beautiful?

Morn in the east! All nature takes up the glad chorus welcoming the "King of Day" as in a flaming chariot he appears above the horizon, kissing the tears from the eyes of weeping flowers, chasing the dew from the hill tops, and down in the valley shedding his warm and cheering smile. Hear ye not a voice as more, on glad and rapid wing, dispels the umber shades of night?

And the little rivulet has a voice,— a low, musical laugh, such as haunts us in our dreams. The gleeful sunshine looks into its sparkling waters, ever loving to listen to its merry music. Here the fairy moss loves to cling, and the lily spray droops low its tiny bell to listen. The little wild-wood songster, weary of its sweet woodland notes, seeks here the free waters to lave its tired wings.

A mighty voice hath old ocean. Its moaning waves are forever chanting o'er the loved and lost; for 'neath its rolling billows the old and young alike rest; the golden head and the grey-haired sire rest side by side.

There are voices of little children, fresh and sweet as the May winds,— their gleeful notes drop like fairy pearls and hold us spell-bound, with their delicious melody.

There are *spirit* voices, gentle and harmonious, winning and soft as the evening zephyrs, which float round our path like soothing angels. Perhaps 'tis the voice of a mother, and it wanders to our hearts peaceful and still as when in days of childhood she guided us lest our wayward feet should grow weary and slip by the way.

There is a voice in the wild, wild wind, as it chants a sad requiem o'er the deserted hearth-stone,— as it rises grand and solemn 'mid the solitude of dark towering mountains,— breaking 'mid rocks,— modulated low and sweet as Æolian harp when it wanders down in the valley. And when it takes up its grand chant over ocean's bed and the great anthem is lost amid the clouds, hath it not a mighty voice? Addie.

Hillsdale, Mich., 1861

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THE TOMB OF THE LAST SIGNER.

The ancient seat of Carroll, of Carrollton, and his tomb, is distant about fifteen miles from Baltimore. Entering the gateway, we drove through a noble avenue, planted on each side with trees of every variety, and soon found ourselves in front of the Carroll mansion, which is a long, comfortable two story building, terminated at the north end by the chapel, which has become famous as the repository of the remains of the gallant old signer of the Declaration of Independence. His tomb is set in the wall on the left altar, and presents a shield and scroll of white marble, on which is carved in relief, a pen and roll of parchment, surrounded by thirteen stars; a Latin inscription, appropriate to his great act, appears on a scroll in the center. Below this are some figures in *basso relievo*, representing Fame with inverted torch, and History guarding a funeral urn. The chapel is cruciform, and contains a handsome marble altar, some fine old pictures, a good organ, and is decorated with rich and beautiful windows of stained glass. The floor, which is elevated, contains some fourteen or sixteen pews, which are occupied by the family of Mr. Carroll and their friends. The body of the church contains about forty commodious pews, where his slaves, who are carefully instructed in the Catholic faith, sit and kneel.

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Man of Principle.—The man of principle needs not the restriction of seal or signature, or any legal instrument. He deals in solitude as in public, at midnight as in the sunshine. His grasped hand is as good as a bond, and his promise as sterling as gold. The complicated interests of men, which so often jar and conflict, are reconciled in him with a beautiful harmony. He is himself the embodiment of justice, the symbol of a perfect society. His charities are not the droppings of a formal pity, but the ointment of a yearning love. In his soul there is a fountain of humor, and close by, a fountain of tears. His spirit is an instrument strung to every proper mood, touched by the light graces of the passing hour, or swept by "solemn thoughts that wander through eternity."

◆

Looking People in the Face.— I have known vast quantities of nonsense talked about bad men not looking you in the face. Don't trust that conventional idea. Dishonesty will stare honesty out of countenance any day in the week, if there is anything to be got by it.— *All the Year Round.*

◆

A Dinner of fragments is often said to be the best dinner; so there are few minds but might furnish some instruction and entertainment on their scraps, their odds and ends of thought. They who cannot weave a uniform web, may at least produce a piece of patchwork.—*Guesses at Truth.*

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New Yorker.]

THE QUESTION.

BY MARGARET ELLIOTT

What is Truth? O, quiet dreamer,
Hast thou seen it in thy way?
Found'st thou aught that is not seeming,
And in all thy placid dreaming
Hast thou solved the mystery?

What is Truth? Tell me, O, scholar!
Searcher into hidden lore!
Have the ancients ever known it,
Or the waves of Time o'er thrown it,—
Like the sea shell,— on the shore?

What is Truth? Tell me, O, Poet!
Weaver of the mystic rhyme!
In thy warp of wierd romances,
Woof of brilliant, starry fancies,
Are there threads of Truth sublime?

THE ANSWER.

Thou hast asked me, O, my brother,
What is Truth, and where it dwells?
Hast forgotten thou art mortal,
And too weak to ope the portal
Where the fount of knowledge wells?

Cease thy vain and futile strivings
To o'erleap the bounds of clay,
Weak and weary of Earth's sorrow,
Wait thou for the soul's to-morrow,
Thou shalt find it — not to-day

Gainesville, N. Y, 1861

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[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE GARDEN OF THE HEART.

In imagination I saw a garden, the garden of the heart. The plant of Disobedience choked that of Obedience, while the plant of Unforgiveness covered that of Forgiveness with its broad, poisonous leaves. The red blossoms of Anger, and the dark leaves of Hate, were side by side with those of Love, the blossoms of which were turned toward the earth, and drew from it a poison which stained them. No dew-drop of Pity fell from the blossoms of Compassion; for this beautiful plant was covered with that of Selfishness, which grew rank and large. What wonder then, that the tiny blossoms of Purity closed themselves, and that the lovely plant of Affection drooped and faded beneath the unlovely ones of Mistrust and Scorn. The pink blossoms of Vanity unfolded their broad petals; and, while those of Modesty were dwarfed, those of Self-Esteem had an unnatural growth. These were all connected by minute fibres, or roots, which sprung from Disobedience.

Wearily toiled the gardener over his garden, and he sighed as he saw that it bore no resemblance to the one given him for a pattern,— which was perfect, pure, and lovely,— so beautiful that angels hovered over it, and spoke in low, sweet accents of His great love and care. Purity seemed written on it,— Compassion, Tenderness, and Sympathy, bloomed there,— and more than all, Love, for, over the garden was written in golden letters— "God is Love." And the gardener thought of Him who had wrought this,— of His goodness, labor, and patience,— of His kindness, sympathy and compassion,— and said, "Shall mine become perfect?" And the gardener wept. Gently he heard the whisper, "Be ye also perfect; work, watch, and pray." Once more he looked at the Divine garden, then at his, and said, "Father, help me," and with the words, "Work, Watch, Pray," still sounding in his ear, he began the task of cultivating rightly his garden.

First he pruned the plant of Self-Esteem, which tended much to destroy Vanity. "Be of good cheer," said a voice; therefore he took courage, and cultivated a little plant called Cheerfulness, which grew on one side of his garden. With Prayer he cut down Disobedience; but the soil had been so long neglected, that it sprung up again and again; yet with Watchfulness, Labor, and Prayer, he so far destroyed it, that Obedience grew nearly perfect. And the gardener said, as he thought of others who were toiling, and of their sufferings,— "I will have compassion and pity for them; I will try and be selfish no longer." So Compassion and Pity once more bloomed, and their dew-drops fell upon the plant of Love, which lifted its head. And the gardener said,— as he saw the perfect symmetry of its form, though its leaves were discolored,— "I must neglect this no longer." Therefore he labored, watched, and prayed, and saw as the result, that Love grew purer, and rose higher. Mistrust and Scorn he banished now; and Affection bloomed, and shed its sweet influences around. Gradually Cheerfulness spread. His garden was growing better, but only through hard, unwearying labor; for many times destructive weeds sprang up, which needed great watchfulness and labor to destroy.

The gardener was growing old, but still he toiled; he labored for a garden free from weeds. His hair was white and thin, his step feeble, his eye less bright; but he looked still to the Divine garden. "Forgive, even as thou would'st be forgiven;" he heard, and he murmured in reply, "Help Thou me to forgive." He cast his eyes to his own garden, and almost wondered as he beheld it. Forgiveness bloomed in loveliness; its odor filled the garden; and above all rose Love clinging to Purity, with blossoms of dazzling whiteness. Cheerfulness was a border, now, around the whole garden; its bright, sunny blossoms were called Happiness. The gardener's face grew radiant as he beheld this great and happy change. He clasped his hands and look'd toward Heaven. A low voice murmured, "Rest thee now." And the gardener saw a beautiful plant called Resignation,— then *slept*, long, calmly, and peacefully. But one bright, glorious morning, when every thing was radiant with light, he awoke, and beheld in Heaven the plants of his garden. There no weeds would molest; these were not suffered to grow there; but as ages after ages would sweep by, he could improve it; still having the Divine garden for a pattern,— cultivating, laboring, engrafting, until his plants should be like unto the Perfect ones; for, lo! he himself was there. Happy Gardener! And as a crown of gold, and a palm of victory were given him, methought I heard a voice whispering in my ear,— "Cultivate thy garden; Work, Watch, and Pray." Alice Ashley.

Canandaigua, N. Y., 1861

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The Province of the Pulpit.—Christianity embraces all. It shows the sovereignity of its principles, not by destroying anything whatever, but by assimilating all things to itself. To the Christian, everything becomes Christian. Nothing is absolutely foreign to the province of the gospel. It saves the whole of man. It saves the whole of life. Nothing, except sin, is profane. Life is not divided. There is no point at which Christianity stops abruptly. As well forbid the atmosphere of two countries to intermix above the mountains which form a boundary between them.—*Rev. T. H. Skinner.*

The Educator.

SCHOOL MATTERS OF NEW YORK.

ON the 31st ult., H. H. VAN DYCK, Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of New York, submitted to the Legislature the following tables and abstracts, exhibiting the operations of the Common School system of the State for the year ending September 30th, 1860. Many portions of this Report contain facts and figures of general interest, and we make such condensation as our space will permit:

SCHOOL DISTRICTS.—The whole number of reported school districts in the State, exclusive of cities, is 11,362; being an increase of 24 during the past year. The average number of persons between the ages of 4 and 21 years, in each district, is 80 1-6. The average number attending school in each district is 53. In this calculation, the schools of the various villages are included, and hence it is obvious that, in the strictly rural districts, the average attendance of pupils is much less than the number above given.

SCHOOL HOUSES.—The number of school houses in the State is reported at 11,659; of which 11,370 are in the rural districts. This shows an increase over the number reported in 1850 of 74. It is also a creditable fact that, in addition to the increase to the aggregate number of school houses, many of the old structures have been superseded by new and more commodious buildings. How many have been thus erected within the past year, the returns do not indicate; but as a new school house is scarce ever built without a quarrel in the district, calling for the intervention of this department in some shape, there is indirect proof afforded that no inconsiderable number of districts are in the enjoyment of accommodations superior to those formerly possessed. The character of these structures is indicated as follows:

	Log	Frame.	Brick	Stone.	Total.
In the cities		38	230	3	271
In the rural districts	263	9,828	732	556	11,379
1860, total	263	9,866	962	559	11,650
1859, total	281	9,801	903	591	11,576

The expenditures during the past year for sites, building, hiring, purchasing, repairing, and insuring school houses, and for fences, out-houses, furniture, &c., amounted to $642,290.63.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.—The number of persons in the State, between the ages of 4 and 21 years, is reported as follows:

	Cities.	Rur. Dist.	Total.
In 1860	403,468	912,412	1,315,880
In 1859.	378,034	894,452	1,272,466
Increase	25,434	17,960	43,414

The number of pupils attending the public schools in 1859 and 1860, is stated thus:

	1859	1860.
In the cities	250,908	268,159
In the rural districts	600,625	599,229
Total	851,533	867,388

Assuming the correctness of the enumeration and report of attendance at school for the rural districts, it appears that, of the 912,412 persons of school age thus reported, 599,229 attended school during the last year, for a longer or shorter period. Private schools not being in anywise subject to the jurisdiction of the school commissioners, the returns in respect to their number, and the pupils in attendance, are entirely unreliable.

The reported number of children attending the public schools for [illegible] of years is as follows:

	1856	1857	1859	1860
10 months and over	53,856	54,434	62,995	64,302
8 do and less than 10	65,972	53,716	68,539	60,202
6 do do 8	133,113	117,507	115,832	117,022
4 do do 6	182,654	179,011	178,069	181,077
2 do do 4	206,971	221,656	230,708	237,175
Less than 2 months	191,176	216,213	206,390	207,610
Totals	832,735	842,137	851,533	867,388

In regard to this subject, I repeat the observations made in the last annual report from this Department, that "not much reliance can be placed on the correctness of the returns as to attendance in the schools, either at this or any previous period." We are dependent for their reliability entirely on the records kept by teachers, and the carefulness of trustees in transcribing them. In too many instances, these details of daily attendance are kept upon loose scraps of paper—not unfrequently they are lost altogether, or carried away by the teacher after serving as the basis of a rate bill,—whilst the absence of actual data at the time of making the annual report of the district, is supplied by the "guesses" of intelligent trustees. The average time school was taught in the year, exclusive of cities, was 7½ months.

TEACHERS EMPLOYED.—The teachers employed during the last two years, are thus classified:

	1859.	1860
Males	8,515	9,224
Females	17,896	18,139
Totals	26,411	27,363

As many teachers are employed in more than one district during the year, the number above stated is probably exaggerated. A more true indication of the number of persons actually engaged in the business of teaching is found in the report of the "number of teachers employed at the same time for six months," or more. These are returned as follows:

	1859	1860
In the cities	2,527	2,731
In the rural districts	12,132	12,290
Totals	14,659	15,021

This may be fairly assumed as the number of teachers actually employed when all the schools are supplied. These returns clearly indicate that, so far as our common schools are concerned, the business of teaching is rapidly passing into the hands of females. I have no lamentations to utter over this ostensible fact. While there are circumstances under which the services of a male teacher may be indispensable, it is still my opinion that, in most of our district schools, the presence of a well qualified female teacher will eventuate in the moral and intellectual advancement of the pupils beyond that which they would attain under the auspices of a majority of the teachers of the sterner sex.

SCHOOL DISTRICT LIBRARIES.—The Superintendent calls the attention of the Legislature to the district libraries. He says that in many of the cities and larger villages, where the sum annually distributed is sufficiently large to keep the libraries in proper condition by the purchase of recent publications, they no doubt answer a most desirable end. But concurrent testimony from nearly every quarter of the State represents the libraries in the rural districts as almost totally unused and rapidly deteriorating in value. The whole number of volumes reported the last year is 1,286,530, which is 317,674 less than was reported in 1853, although $55,000 have been apportioned in each year since that period for library purposes. If the money devoted to this object were expended under the direction of some competent board, it would not only insure its application to the purpose contemplated by the law, but would give to the districts five times the number of volumes now received, and that of a valuable standard character.

The subjects here laid before RURAL teachers and readers are worthy of much consideration. We shall resume the publication in our next Educational department.

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"YOU ARE A STUPID BLOCKHEAD!"

ARE you sure of that? Is it not just possible that the boy's teacher is the stupid one? Are you quite certain that your questions, or your explanations, are expressed in intelligible language? Don't you talk so rapidly that none but the brightest scholars can follow you? Does not your severity of manner frighten the poor fellow so that he cannot tell what he knows perfectly? Are you not, in your anxiety to make him recite promptly and brilliantly, embarrassing him so that he cannot recite at all? Have you ever done anything to give that boy self-confidence? Have you ever heartily encouraged him, sympathized with him, made him feel that you are his friend? Have you ever earnestly tried to find the avenue to his heart and his head? Say to yourself thoughtfully, "After all, am not I the stupid one?"

But grant that the boy is naturally a "stupid blockhead." Is it his fault? Had he the making of his own brains? And is it not misfortune enough to have been born a blockhead without your repeatedly reminding him of the disagreeable fact? Will your statement make him any brighter, or yourself the more amiable? Put yourself down in that boy's place. How much better would you feel, how much more clearly would you think, how much more cheerfully would you study, if your teacher were to make a public announcement of your stupidity? Would you not be either utterly discouraged, or righteously indignant? What right, then, have you to outrage that scholar's feelings by your cutting words? If his father were sitting in your school-room, think you that you would utter such harsh words? And have you the thoughtlessness, or the meanness, to use language in the father's absence which you would be ashamed, and would not dare, to use in his presence? Is it not your duty to remember that that boy has sensibilities to be moved, feelings to be respected, as much as you have? And have not his parents a right to demand that you shall treat him with kindness and patience? Will you not do away, then, with all bitter words, assured that they do no good, but much harm?—*Massachusetts Teacher.*

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INDIFFERENCE AND CAPTIOUSNESS.

WITHOUT the zealous co-operation of the community, our schools can never reach that high point of excellence to which it was the design of their friends and founders to carry them. The pride and enthusiasm of society should be fully awakened, and continually manifested in their favor. When this is the case, a spirit of emulation is roused among teachers and scholars, and new life and energy pervade and animate the whole system.

Nothing can be more unjust to the public schools than complaint without investigation, condemnation without a hearing. Sweeping and indiscriminate denunciations can have little or no foundation in truth. Much of the clamor against them is based upon ignorant prejudice, and the hostility of narrow and selfish minds. If parents, instead of listening to the often frivolous and exaggerated statements as to their management, would visit the schools themselves, they would find that, in many cases, where there has been no benefit or advancement on the part of the pupil, the fault has been, not in the teacher, or the system of government, but in the loose rule at home, the absence of all parental restraint, and the consequent want of sympathy and co-operation in any regular plan of instruction and government. Parents should feel that a common school is a place of discipline and authority. That to enjoy its benefits, they must conform strictly to the laws necessary for its successful management. If parents encourage or wink at the frequent absences and delinquencies of the pupil, why should they complain, if, at the end of the session, no proficiency has been made.—*Memphis School Report.*

◆

OUR COMMON SCHOOLS.

THE common school gives the key of knowledge to the mass of the people. I think it may with truth be said that the branches of knowledge taught therein, when taught in a finished, masterly manner,—reading, in which I include the spelling of our language; a firm, sightly, legible handwriting, and the elemental rules of arithmetic,—are of greater value than all the rest which is taught now-a-days at school. I am far from saying that nothing else can be taught at our district schools; but the young person who brings these from school, can himself, in his winter evenings, range over the entire field of useful knowledge. Our common schools are important in the same way as the common air, the common sunshine, the common rain,—invaluable for their commonness. They are the corner stone of that municipal organization which is the characteristic feature of our social system; they are the fountain of that wide-spread intelligence which, like a moral life, pervades the country. From the humblest village school there may go forth a teacher who, like Newton, shall bind his temples with the stars of Orion's belt,—with Herschel, light up his cell with the beams of before undiscovered planets,—with Franklin, grasp the lightning.—*Edward Everett.*

◆

BROODING ON ONE THOUGHT.—If you think long and deeply upon any subject, it grows in apparent magnitude and weight; if you think of it too long, it may grow big enough to exclude the thought of all things besides. If it be an existing and prevalent evil you are thinking of, you may come to fancy that if that one thing were done away, it would be well with the human race: all evil would go with it. I can conceive the process by which, without mania, without anything worse than the workable unsoundness of the practically sound mind, one might come to think as the man who wrote against stopping thought. For myself, I feel the force of this law so deeply, that there are certain evils of which I am afraid to think much, for fear I should come to be able to think of nothing else and nothing more.—*Fraser's Magazine.*

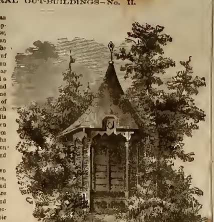
◆

HUMBOLDT said ten years ago, "Governments, religion, property, books, are nothing but the scaffolding to educate a man. Earth holds up to her Master no fruit but the finished man. Education is the only interest worthy the deep controlling anxiety of the thoughtful man."

◆

THE chief art of learning is to attempt but little at a time. The widest excursions of the mind are made by short flights, frequently repeated; the most lofty fabrics of science are formed by the continued accumulation of single propositions.—*Locke.*

RURAL OUT-BUILDINGS—No. II.



IN our last we stated that an arbor must be simple and in keeping with the place and its objects; and that unless near the house, so that both could be seen at the same view, it should not be of showy carpenters' work. When an arbor or summer house is near the house, it may be considered a kind of an accompaniment, and may partake of somewhat the same style of architecture, though of course the style must be much modified to be in keeping with its object as a summer resort. When the summer house is away from the house, in a retired part of the garden, it belongs to the garden alone, and should be simple and rustic in its character.

The builders of arbors make two great mistakes. In the first place, they are made too expensive and too showy. These structures are not for show, but for rest and comfort. There can be no objection to neatness or taste in their construction, but a great outlay in elaborate or fancy work shows exceeding bad taste, and is quite offensive. Most of the summer houses we see are damp and gloomy, instead of being cheerful and pleasant. Many a time have we turned back when about to enter one of these places, as we felt the chilly damp air, to seek a more pleasant resting place under the the shade of some neighboring tree. These structures should not be placed where the shade is so dense as to cause dampness, nor should they be so constructed as to exclude air and sunshine. If so, they are the most gloomy places that can be imagined.

It is well to have a summer-house in a situation somewhat retired, but it should be so placed, if possible, as to command a good view of the surrounding country, and if this is impossible, it should give a view of the most interesting part of the grounds, as no one would like to sit long in a position where nothing pleasant is to be seen.

In our last issue we gave an engraving showing a good rustic summer-house, designed by GEORGE E. HARNEY, of Lynn, Mass., and now we give another from the same source, requiring more expense and carpenter's skill. It is octagon in form, the roof curves up, as shown in the view, and is covered with ornamental shingles. One of the sides of the octagon forms the entrance, the rest are filled with blinds, which rise and fall by means of pulleys, forming either a close or an open arbor. It has a seat around the inside, and two moveable tables.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

ALL ABOUT DOGS.

NEW YORK CITY is the center of the canine trade for this continent, many persons being engaged exclusively in buying and selling, and breeding and training dogs of all descriptions. The leading dog seller in this city does a very extensive business. At his store he keeps a select assortment always on hand for sale, and at his country residence he generally has seventy or eighty animals, besides, perhaps, thrice that number boarding out in the vicinity. Many of his dogs are of rare breed and beauty, and proportionally valuable. Among the rare dogs is a Siberian blood hound, Sultan, a nephew to the celebrated dog Prince, which cost $1,000, and after his exhibition in England, was sold for twice his original cost. Sultan is 14 months old, weighs 160 lbs., and girts 39 inches. Prince, at the same age, weighed 220 lbs., stood 36¼ inches in height, and measured from nose to tail 7 feet 9 inches. There are not a dozen of this breed of dogs owned in this city, and none of them are valued at less than $1,000 each. The Bruno breed was originated by this dealer, and was obtained by crossing the Newfoundland with the St. Bernard mastiff and the Alpine Shepherd dog. These animals are highly prized by Southerners as watch dogs, and pups readily fetch $100 each. They are large dogs, sometimes attaining the length of 7 feet, and 34 inches in height, and a weight of 130 lbs. The St. Bernard mastiff is very rare, and of course brings high prices.

The Newfoundland is the most popular dog with all classes, and large numbers of them, both pure breed and mongrels, are sold annually. Perfect blackness of color is the American test of purity of breed, and pups answering this demand sell at $10 to $25 each. The Shepherd dog, or Scotch colly, is in large demand, and when well trained, brings from $50 to $100. Of terriers there are many varieties, the black and tan being the favorites, and probably the most fashionable dog in existence. When finely bred and well cared for, this is an elegant animal, quick, sharp, and intelligent, an excellent "ratter," and capable of being trained to hunt anything. They vary in weight from 1 to 25 lbs., having of late years been greatly refined by crossing with the Italian grayhound. When persisted in, this produces very elegant animals, but their proportions generally lack symmetry, and they become delicate and unfit for active exercise. The black and tan is valued in proportion to his diminutive size. In price they average from $20 to $100 and upwards. The black and tan terrier we believe to be the best dog for farmers. They are not large enough to injure sheep, and they are fine watch dogs, the best of ratters, gentle and affectionate playmates for children, and at home both in barn and in house. The Scotch terrier is one of the hardiest of dogs, very courageous, and the enemy of all vermin. He is at present very fashionable, and his price ranges from $10 to $50.

For sporting and hunting dogs—beagles, harriers, pointers, and setters, well trained, bring high prices. The black and tan German beagle sells in great numbers at $15 to $40 for shooting and hunting purposes. Setters and pointers, when well bred and broken, bring from $75 to $100. Spaniels are in but moderate demand. Of pet Spaniels, the King Charles stands at the head of the list. Hosts of them are sold every year, of impure breed and inferior points, at prices varying from $25 to $200. A perfect King Charles possesses seven distinguished points of beauty—round head, short nose, long, curly ears, large, full eyes, black and tan color, without a speck of white, and of weight not exceeding 10 lbs. The genuine are rarely found. One dealer here has one for which he paid 44 guineas, and not long ago one was sold at auction, in England, for the enormous sum of 525 guineas, or $2,000.—*N. Y. World.*

◆

NATURE FOR THE UNION.

THIS country is geographically one. The bounds of nations are not arbitrarily assigned; they are, in general, determined by fixed laws. A people indeed, as in the case of the Romans, may conquer other nations, and gather them all under one despotic head in despite of their essential diversities. But this is a temporary contravention of the laws of nature. It is the configuration of the earth's surface which determines the boundaries of nations. Greece was geographically one. So was Egypt; so is Italy, which is now at last struggling to attain its normal state. Spain, France, Great Britain, Germany, are all one, not by the will of man, but by physical laws, which men can contravene only to their own detriment or destruction. The immutable law of God, as expressed in nature, makes the territory assigned to the Anglo-Saxon race on this continent one nation. The same mountain ranges run through the whole land. The great valley, beginning in Carolina and Tennessee, reaches to the borders of Canada. The broad Atlantic slope is one continuous plain. The immense basin of the Mississippi includes, as the bosom of a common mother, the States from the Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. The Ohio, the Missouri and the Mississippi, are arteries which carry the same living flood through the vast region through which they flow.

The country is thus physically one, and therefore its organic life is one. We cannot divide a tree without destroying its life. We cannot divide a river without producing an inundation. The union of this country, therefore, is determined by the homogenity of its people, by its history, and by its physical character. It cannot be permanently dissevered. The mistaken counsels or passions of men may cause a temporary separation, but the laws of nature will ultimately assert their supremacy, and avenge, by terrible disasters, their temporary violation.—*Princeton Review.*

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THE PLANNING OF CITIES.—The London Builder says that a spider's web furnishes a better plan for the laying out of new cities than any which has yet been devised by surveyors and engineers. Any one who can find a distinct and complete web unbroken, will see how beautifully regular it is, and how perfectly adapted for the quickest passage from any one point to another. The concentric rings are not circles, but polygons, the radiating exquisitively regular and straight.

The Young Ruralist.

THE AMERICAN FLAG.

THERE never was a more fitting time than the present to give a few facts regarding the adoption of our country's flag—a flag that has afforded protection to every American citizen in every land—a flag which the weakest nations of the earth have honored, and the strongest dared not insult—yet one that has been insulted and trampled in the dust by the citizens of our own land, over whose heads it has proudly waved for scores of years.

It was in January, 1776, when the British were in Boston and the Americans encamped at Cambridge, that WASHINGTON unfurled the first American, or, as it was called, the Union flag. As shown in the engraving, it was composed of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, symbolizing the thirteen revolted Colonies. In one corner was the device of the British Union flag, composed of two crosses—the cross of St. George, which is a common cross, a horizontal and a perpendicular bar; and the cross of St. Andrew, representing Scotland, which is in the form of an X.

When General Howe saw this flag with the Union device in the corner, waving over the American camp, he expressed great joy, for he regarded it as a token of friendship for England, and an evidence that a conciliatory speech which the King had made recently to the British Parliament was well received by the army, and that submission would soon follow.

About this time privateering was authorized by Congress, and private citizens fitted out vessels of war to prey upon British merchant vessels, depending upon their booty for their compensation. Some of these carried a white flag decorated with a green pine tree. One of these was captured and exhibited in the Admiralty Office, London, and was described in the *London Chronicle* of January, 1776:—"The field is of white bunting; in the middle is a green pine tree, and upon the opposite side is the motto—'*Appeal to Heaven!*'" A map of Boston, published in Paris in 1776, had for a vignette an English soldier endeavoring to take from an American one of these flags shown in the engraving above, which the latter was manfully defending.

On the 18th of January, 1777, Congress ordered "thirteen stars, white, in a blue field," to be put in place of the British Union. This has ever since been the design of our flag, a star having been added for every State admitted into the Union, while the original number of stripes are retained. For the engravings in this article, we are indebted to LOSSING'S finely illustrated History of America.

◆

MUSCLE AGAINST BRAINS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Athletic sports have become very fashionable. Ball-playing, and skating, and boat-racing, claim the special attention and all the leisure time of the youth of our villages. "Muscle" is cultivated, I fear, to the neglect of those nobler parts that distinguish man from the brute—the head and the heart. Young ladies, too delicate to assist their hard-working mothers in household duties, can skate by the hour, without fatigue. It seems that in PLATO'S time there were fast young men, and the cultivation of muscle and skill, in racing and driving, even then, secured the applause of the masses, while the great philosopher looked on such scenes with sorrow. The following, which I copy from an old book, I think may be read with profit by the young men and women of the present day.

PHILO.

THE YOUTH AND THE PHILOSOPHER.

A GRECIAN youth of talents rare,
Whom Plato's philosophic care
Had form'd for virtue's nobler view,
By precept and example too,
Would often boast his matchless skill
To curb the steed and guide the wheel,
And, as he pass'd the gazing throng,
With graceful ease, and smack'd the thong,
The idiot wonder they express'd,
Was praise and transport to his breast.

At length, quite vain, he needs would show
His master what his art could do;
And bade his slaves the chariot lead
To Academus' sacred shade.
The trembling grove confess'd its fright,
The wood nymphs started at the sight;
The muses drop their learned lyre,
And to their inmost shades retire.

Howe'er, the youth, with forward air,
Bows to the sage, and mounts the car
The lash resounds, the coursers spring,
The chariot marks the rolling ring;
And gath'ring crowds, with eager eyes
And shout, pursue him as he flies.

Triumphant to the goal return'd,
With nobler thirst his bosom burn'd;
And now along th' indented plain,
The self-same track he marks again,
Pursues with care the nice design,
Nor ever deviates from the line.
Amazement seiz'd the circling crowd,
The youths with emulation glow'd;
E'en bearded sages hail'd the boy;
And all but Plato gaz'd with joy.

For he, deep-judging sage, beheld
With pain the triumphs of the field,
And when the charioteer drew nigh,
And, flush'd with hope, had caught his eye,
"Alas! unhappy youth," he cried,
"Expect no praise from me," (and sigh'd.)

"With indignation I survey
Such skill and judgment thrown away,
The time profusely squandered there,
On vulgar arts beneath thy care,
If well employ'd, at less expense,
Had taught thee honor, virtue, sense,
And rais'd thee from a coachman's *fate*,
To govern men and guide the state."—*Whitehead.*

◆

NAMES OF THE MONTHS.

PROBABLY there are many among us who do not and yet would like to know from whence the months of the year derived their separate names;—then listen and we will try and give you the desired information. You must surely know that the names of the months were given by the Romans—and that their origin is, consequently, very peculiar. They are as follows, viz:—January, the first month, which was so called from *Janus*, an ancient king of *Italy*, who was deified after his death. The word was derived from the Latin word *Januarius*.

February, the second month, is derived from the Latin word *Februo*, to purify; for this month the Romans offered up expiatory sacrifices for the purifying of the people.

March, the third month, anciently the first month, is derived from the word *Mars*, the god of war.

April is so called from the Latin word *Aprilus*—i. e., opening: because in this month the vegetable world opens and buds forth.

May, the fifth month, is derived from the Latin word *Majores*, so called by Romulus, in respect toward the senators: hence *Maius* or *May*.

June, the sixth month, from the Latin word *Junius*, or the youngest of the people.

July, the seventh month, is derived from the Latin word *Julius*, and so named in honor of *Julius Cæsar*.

August, the eighth month, was called in honor of Augustus, by a decree of the Roman senate, A. D. 8.

September, the ninth month, from the Latin word *Septem*, or *seven*, being the seventh from March.

October, the tenth month, from the Latin word *Octo*, the eighth, hence we have October.

November, the eleventh month, from the Latin word, *Novem*, nine, being the ninth from March.

December, the twelfth month, from the Latin of *Decem*, ten, so called because it was the tenth month from March, which was anciently the time of beginning the year.—*Selected.*

◆

MEN AND ANIMALS.—How superior are men in intellectual and moral qualities to the animal creation! For example, let a bird discover a store of seeds or fruit, and the foolish thing goes and tells of his good fortune, and all the birds in the neighborhood flock to enjoy it. Even a little ant will bring his whole tribe to feast upon a newly-discovered dainty. But let a man discover a mine of gold, or any kind of valuable treasure, and he will keep it to himself as long as possible, and take the greatest care to conceal it from others.

◆

PASSION AND REASON.—Truth enters into the heart of man when it is empty, and clean, and still; but when the mind is shaken with passion as with a storm, you can never hear the voice of the charmer though he charm never so wisely; and you will very hardly sheathe a sword when it is held by a loose and a paralytic arm.

◆

HASTE.—Haste and rashness are storms and tempests, breaking and wrecking business; but nimbleness is a full, fair wind, blowing it with speed to the haven.—*Fuller.*

◆

WHEN, in a case of doubtful morality, you feel disposed to ask, "Is there any harm in doing this?" please answer it by asking yourself another, "Is there any harm in letting it alone?"

◆

ONE-HALF of the time ordinarily spent in vain efforts to regain lost health, would suffice to preserve it.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Book for the Times—J W Bradley
Fruit and Ornamental Trees for Spring of 1861—Ellwanger & Barry
Howard's New Mower—R. L. Howard.
Bailey's Original Packages of Stationery and Jewelry—J. L. Bailey
Wheeler & Wilson's Improved Family Sewing Machines—S. W. Dibble, Agent.
Canvassers Wanted—Dick & Fitzgerald.
New Cuyahoga Grapes—C. P. Bissell & Salter
Experienced and Reliable Agents Wanted.
Farm for Sale or to Rent—A. N. Wright.
Agents Wanted—F. Beach.
Apple Seeds for Sale—J. Rapalje.
Farm for Sale Cheap—L. Van Deusen

SPECIAL NOTICES.
Brown's Troches for Public Speakers

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEBRUARY 16, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

THE Peace Convention organized according to the programme, and has thus far been conducted with closed doors. On the 6th inst., a resolution was introduced proposing to conduct the proceedings with open doors. It was earnestly debated. The result was a restriction upon Commissioners communicating their doings to outside parties. The Commissioners are social, harmonious, but are yet discussing no movements looking to practical results.

The nomination of Judge Pettit for Judge of the District of Kansas has been determined upon.

Secretary of State Black will probably soon be nominated as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in place of Justice Daniels, deceased.

Steam frigates Colorado, Mississippi, and Minnesota, now at Boston, and the Roanoake, at Brooklyn, are at once to be put in requisition for service, connected with collection of revenue at certain ports where the same can not be collected by the usual means.

The tellers to count votes for President and Vice-President, are Trumbull of the Senate, and Washburn, of Illinois, and Phelps in the House.

Several Alabama Post-Masters declined to render accounts, saying they would wait the action of their States.

Additional evidence continues to be received of violation of private correspondence in the South.

The President's course in relation to the proposition of Hayne was similar to that towards the former Commissioners, that he had no authority to treat for disposition of the forts and other public property. It was his duty to defend them to the best of his ability, and the consequences must fall upon those who attack them.

Gov. Letcher, of Va., was on the floor of the House on the 6th inst., and was greeted by members from the North and South. He expresses the opinion that Virginia will accept no plan of Compromise guaranteeing less than the Crittenden propositions, and adds that the Virginia Convention will recommend secession as their ultimate action unless that is complied with.

The following in relation to the revenue cutter Robert McClelland, which was surrendered to the State of Louisiana, is derived from an official source. The cutter is one of the largest and best in the revenue service, just rebuilt and refitted. Her commander was Robert Breshwood, of Virginia. On the 19th of January, four days after Secretary Dix took charge of the Treasury Department, he sent Mr. Wm. H. Jones, Chief Clerk in the first Commissioners office, to New Orleans and Mobile, to save if possible the two cutters in service there. Capt. Morrison, a Georgian, commanding the Lewis Cass, at Mobile, must have surrendered her before Mr. Jones' arrival. On the 29th of January the Secretary received the following telegraph dispatch from Mr. Jones:

> "NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 29th.
>
> "*To the Hon. J. A. Dix, Sec'y of the Treasury:*
>
> "Capt. Breshwood has refused positively, in writing, to obey any instructions of the Department. In this I am sure he is sustained by the Collector, and I believe acts by his advice. What must I do?
>
> "Signed, W. H. JONES."

To this dispatch Secretary Dix immediately returned the following answer:

> "TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Jan. 29th.
>
> "*To Wm. H. Jones, New Orleans.*
>
> "Tell Lieut. Caldwell to arrest Capt. Breshwood, to assume command of the cutter, and obey the order through you. If Capt. Breshwood, after arrest, undertakes to interfere with the command of the cutter, tell Lieut. Caldwell to consider him a mutineer and treat him accordingly. If any one attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot.
>
> JOHN A. DIX, Sec'y of Trea's."

This dispatch it is said must have been intercepted both at Montgomery and New Orleans, and withheld from Mr. Jones, and that the conduct of Capt. Breshwood was consummated by means of a complicity on the part of the telegraph line with the States of Alabama, and Louisiana, which latter State has accepted the cutter.

The telegraph this (Monday) morning states that the impression in Washington among gentlemen who are well acquainted with the subject, is that no apprehension need be sustained relative to an immediate attack on Fort Sumter, as that question will be referred to a Southern Congress. Meanwhile the South Carolina authorities will keep strict guard of the coast to intercept any attempt to reinforce Major Anderson. All domestic supplies and mail facilities are to be denied and every possible means taken to weaken and starve out the garrison.

The testimony of Ex-Senator Benjamin before the Indiana Bond Committee is said to have been very direct and damaging to Secretary Floyd. He asserts that when he became accidentally aware of Floyd's manner of giving acceptances, he warned him against it, and Floyd promised to desist. Afterwards Floyd issued them to the amount of $4,000,000.

Col. Hayne, in reply to the President, on the 9th inst., says:—"Although an emphatic refusal to my demand closes my mission, I desire a correct impression to prevail that South Carolina wished to purchase Sumter. South Carolina would make compensation alone for the property, but the idea of purchasing it entirely is inconsistent with the assertion of the paramount right in the purchaser. South Carolina claims to have dissolved her political connection and destroyed all political relations with your Government, with everything within her borders. She is a separate and independent Government, exercising sovereignty over every soil and fort, except Fort Sumter. The avowed intention to hold Sumter as a military post by a foreign government, leaves the authorities there to determine the proper course to be pursued. He asks the President if he is aware that holding fortresses by a foreign power against the will of the authorities, is the highest insult that can be offered. He says South Carolina does not wish Port Sumter because of a misplaced confidence in a government which deceived her. He thinks the reply to his demand, that the occupation of Fort Sumter is no cause for irritation, but a protection to Carolina, is ironical for a grave subject. If the responsibility rests on Carolina, that government is unconscious of the fact."

The President has approved and signed the $25,000,000 loan which passed both Houses as originally reported, with amendments providing that the revenue from the loan authorized by the act of June, 1860, or so much as may be deemed necessary, shall be applied to the redemption of treasury notes issued under the act of December, and for no other purpose.

The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to exchange at par the bonds of the United States for said Treasury notes at legal interest and shall not be obliged to accept the most favorable bids as provided for, unless he shall consider them advantageous to the United States, and any portion of said loan not taken under the first advertisement, he may advertise according to his discretion.

By reason of the receipt of information of the seizure of New York ships at Savannah, together with the recent action of the New Orleans Custom House, in obstructing the interior commerce, in effect levying tribute, and the declaration of the Montgomery Congress in opening the Southern ports free to foreign commerce, John Cochrane of New York will call up and press to a passage the bill introduced heretofore by him providing for the thorough execution of the Federal Revenue laws for the protection of the commercial interests of the nation against flagitious attacks upon them by the seceding States.

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—A message was received from the President, transmitting from the Governor of Kentucky resolutions applying to Congress to call a Convention to present amendments to the Constitution. The President said it afforded him great pleasure to perform this duty. He felt confident that Congress would act with the consideration to which the resolutions are entitled, on account of their patriotic source, as well as great importance. The subject was laid on the table.

Mr. Wigfall offered a resolution inquiring of the President why troops were concentrated in the District of Columbia. Mr. Pearce advocated the resolution, which passed.

A bill to provide a government for Idaho, was taken up. Mr. Green's amendment changing the boundary, was adopted. On motion of Mr. Wilson, the name was changed to Colorado. The bill passed.

Mr. Pearce reported the deficiency bill, with the House amendment, and recommended the Senate to insist on their amendments, and asking for a Committee of Conference. Agreed to.

The President sent a message to both Houses, giving the correspondence between himself and Col. Hayne. Hayne's letter of January 31, after stating the refusal to surrender Fort Sumter to be the occasion for war, and stating the question to be one of mere property, he says:—If the evils of war are to be encountered, especially the calamities of civil war, elevated statesmanship would seem to require that it should be accepted as an unavoidable alternative of something still more disastrous—such as National dishonor, or measures materially affecting the safety or permanent interests of the people, that it should be a choice deliberately made and entered upon, and of set purpose; but that war should be incident or accident attendant upon policy professedly peaceful, and not required to effect the object which was avowed as the only end intended, can only be excused where no warning has been given as to consequences. South Carolina cannot, by her silence, appear to acquiesce in the imputation that she is guilty of an act of unprovoked aggression in firing on the Star of the West. Though an unarmed vessel, she was filled with armed men, entering her territory against her will. Gov. Pickens's instructions to him accompanied Hayne's letter.

Secretary Holt replied on the 6th, acknowledging the President's receipt of Hayne's letter. He but gives a summary of Hayne's instructions, which are to this effect:

"I do not come as a military man to demand a surrender of the fortress, but as a legal officer, as the State Attorney General, to claim for the State the exercise of its undoubted right of eminent domain, and to pledge the State to make good all injury to the rights of property which arise from the exercise of the claim."

The proposition, therefore, is to buy Fort Sumter, sustained by a declaration in effect, that if South Carolina is not permitted to make a purchase, she will seize the fort by force of arms. As an invitation for the negotiation for the transfer of property of friendly Governments, this proposal impresses the President as having assumed a most unusual form. He has, however, investigated the claim on which it proposes to be based. Apart from the declaration that accompanies it, the title of the United States to the first is complete and incontrovertible. Now, as to its interest in the property proprietory, in the ordinary acceptation of the term: It might be subjected to the exercise of the right of eminent domain, but it has political relations to it of a much higher and more imposing character than those of mere proprietorship. It has absolute jurisdiction over the fort and soil on which it stands, which is clearly incompatible with claims of eminent domain. This authority is derived from the peaceful cession of South Carolina herself, under provisions of the Constitution of the United States. South Carolina can no more assert the right of eminent domain over Sumter, than Maryland can over the District of Columbia. The President, however, is relieved from further necessity of prosecuting this inquiry, from the fact that he has not the constitutional power to cede or surrender it.

The question of reinforcing Sumter was so fully disposed of in my letter of January 22d, to Senator Slidell, a copy of which accompanies this, that its discussion need not be renewed. I then said:—"At the present moment, it is not deemed necessary to reinforce Major Anderson, because he makes no such request. Should his safety, however, require reinforcements, every effort will be made to supply them."

The Vice-President announced that he had received the resolutions of the Democratic State Convention of Ohio. Objection was made to their reception, on the ground that they were not specially addressed to the Senate. After some discussion, the resolutions were received. Yeas 33—nays 14.

The Naval Appropriation bill was taken up and passed, when the Senate adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE.—Mr. Taylor sent to the Clerk's table the Louisiana ordinance of secession, which was read. After the reading, Mr. T. took leave of the members and withdrew.

Mr. Bouligny, another of the Louisiana Representatives, made an explanation that he had not received an official notice of the ordinance of secession. He was not elected by the Convention, and would not be governed by their action. He was the only member of Congress elected as an American Union man, and to this principle he should stand forever. When I came here I took an oath to maintain the Constitution of the United States. Does not that mean the Union of the States? By that oath I shall stand. Whenever my immediate constituents instruct me to withdraw from the House, their wishes shall be complied with. I shall, however, not only withdraw, but resign my seat, but after I do so, I shall continue to be a Union man, and stand under the flag of the country that gave me birth.

The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President, inclosing a resolution from the Kentucky Legislature, which asks Congress to call a National Convention to amend the Constitution. He commends the proposition.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the bill re-organising the Patent Office, and amending the Patent Laws. It came from the Senate last session, and was now passed by the House with amendments.

An amendment appropriating $125,000 for the purchase of the Wendell establishment for a public printing office, was debated and adopted.

Mr. Colfax called up a bill to suspend mail service in seceding States, which, after debate, was passed—131 against 26.

The House passed a bill for the adjustment of the claims of the Puget Sound Agricultural Co., under the treaty of Great Britain. It authorizes persons residing in Washington Territory, within one year, to make application for confirmation of the title to the lands claimed by them.

The Speaker laid before the House the message of the President, inclosing the correspondence between himself and Col. Hayne, of South Carolina. Referred to a select committee of five, and ordered printed.

On motion of Mr. Boteler, a resolution was adopted requesting the President to communicate to the House the correspondence between our Government and that of Peru since 1854, on the subject of the free navigation of the Amazon and its tributaries. Adj.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—The Virginia Commission Resolutions were taken up. Mr. Montgomery offered an amendment expressing a willingness to unite with the Legislature of Virginia and other States, in an application for a Convention to assemble at an early day, to propose amendments to the Constitution for ratification by the several States. After a protracted session, the resolutions on the Virginia propositions were amended by adding the names of John A. King and Gen. Wool to the Commissioners, and then passed.

The bill appropriating $500,000 to arm the State came up as special order, and was passed.

Mr. Hammond introduced a resolution asking the Convention at Washington to sit with open doors. Adopted.

Thurlow Weed was appointed Commissioner to Washington, under the Virginia resolutions, in place of Addison Gardiner, declined.

ASSEMBLY.—Reports on the Institution for the Blind, and criminal statistics of the State were sent in.

The Governor presented resolutions from the Kentucky and Minnesota Legislatures, which were ordered entered on the journal and printed.

The Governor also transmitted a letter from John A. Dix, asking the passage of a bill to authorize the indorsement of the State to United States bonds to the amount of deposit fund in this State. On motion of Mr. Robinson the letter was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Assembly at 12 o'clock, on the 5th inst., in accordance with law, proceeded to nominate a candidate for United States Senator in place of William H. Seward. Ira Harris, of Albany, was nominated by all the Republicans except Anthony, Field, Finch and Rice, absentees; Pendergrast not voting. Horatio Seymour, of Oneida, was nominated by all the Democrats except Cozzens, not voting, and Long, Odell and Woodruff, absent. For Harris 88; Seymour 31.

The House then nominated E. W. Leavenworth and J. Carson Brevoort, for Regents of the University, in place of David Buell and George B. Cheever, the Democratic vote being cast for Jeremiah W. Cummings and John D. Willard. The two Houses then went into joint session, the nominations being found to agree. Ira Harris was duly elected to the United States Senate, and Leavenworth and Brevoort Regents of the University.

The Secession Movement.

THE Secessionists met at Montgomery, Alabama, on the 4th inst. R. W. Barnwell was chosen chairman *pro tem.* An impressive prayer was offered by Basil Manley. On motion of R. B. Rhett, Howell Cobb was elected as permanent President by acclamation, and Johnson F. Harper was elected as permanent Secretary. All the delegates were present except Mr. F. Morton, of Florida.

The Congress has been held with closed doors and but very little of the transactions have leaked out, but we learn that on the 8th a Constitution and Provisional Government were unanimously agreed upon. It is said a strong and vigorous government will go into immediate operation with full power and ample funds. No proposition for compromise or reconstruction will be entertained.

A committee was appointed to report on a flag, a seal, coat of arms, and a motto for the Southern Confederacy.

The President was directed to appoint committees on foreign affairs, finance, military and naval, postal, commerce and patents. Hon. Jeff. Davis, of Miss., was then elected President, and Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Ga., Vice President of the Southern Confederacy. The vote was unanimous.

A resolution was adopted for a committee of three Alabama Deputies to report on what terms suitable buildings in Montgomery for the use of the several departments of the Provisional Government can be obtained.

An ordinance was passed continuing in force until repealed or altered by the Southern Congress, all laws in force in the United States on the first of November last. It is understood that under this law a tariff will be laid on all goods brought from the United States.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Finance to report promptly a tariff for raising revenue for the support of the Government.

LOUISIANA.—The New Orleans Convention decided for the present to recognize the Central Government at Washington for postal arrangements, and the future to be provided for by the Southern Congress. Resolutions were passed indorsing the action and appointments of the Montgomery Congress, and a salute of 100 guns were fired in honor of Davis and Stephens.

Pensacola advices of the 2d are received. A truce had been concluded between Lieut. Slimmer and the State forces. The Mississippians were to start for home on the 4th. The Alabama troops remain until relieved.

TEXAS.—The Texas convention met at Austin on the 28th. The ordinance of secession passed on the 1st—166 to 7. The Governor, Legislative Supreme Court Judges and Commissioners were present. It is to be voted on the 23d of Feb., and if adopted, to go into effect on March 2d. The Governor recognises the Convention. The people declare their attachment to the South, and desire a joint Southern Confederacy, and if none is formed, will form the Republic of Texas.

VIRGINIA.—Very few delegates elected are submissionists. They intend to exhaust every honorable means, but will go for secession unless the Southern rights are fully guaranteed. If the peace congress fails to effect a settlement, the convention will doubtless refer the question to the people.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The House, on the 4th inst., passed unanimously a resolution declaring that in case reconciliation fails, North Carolina goes with the other Slave States.

The Late Storm.

ON Wednesday, the 6th inst., we were visited by a storm which has not had a parallel for many years. The fall of snow was not very heavy in this immediate vicinity, but the wind blew with such force as to cause drifts which laid a complete embargo upon mails, railroads, etc. The storm culminated during Thursday night, when the thermometers hereabouts indicated 13 or 14° below zero, according to position. The storm had a wide range as we are informed by telegraph. Rock Island, 2°; Chicago, 14°; Kalamazoo, 5° below; Buffalo, 0° below; Nunda, 20° below; Oswego, 23° below; Utica, 30° below; Albany, 20° below; Ogdensburgh, 38° below; Watertown, 40° below; and thus it varied all through New York State. At Albany on the 7th, the thermometer at noon stood at 38°; at 7 o'clock P. M., zero; at 11, 10° below zero; on the 8th, 7 A. M., 28° below zero was observed by the registering thermometer—showing a fall of 66 degrees in 19 hours, and the lowest point on the record since the winter of 1855, when the same thermometer, in the same position, marked 27 degrees below zero. The barometer rose about 1½ inches during the same time. In N. Y. city the gale was very furious, unroofing buildings, blowing down trees, chimneys, &c., but it lacked the coldness observable in other portions. The telegraph from Baltimore stated that the gale unroofed thirty houses. Walls and chimneys were demolished and trees uprooted. Tide lowered three feet.

In Canada the thermometer indicated at various points from 10° to 40° below zero. There was much more snow than in New York. The telegraph from Collingwood on the 8th, said, "The weather is clear. Snow 8 feet deep in drifts of half a mile. Thermometer 11° below."

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The London Times in another editorial on the American crisis, is very bitter on President Buchanan. It says few men who have been called upon to play so important a political part have been found so utterly unequal to their situation.

A prospectus had been issued of an India Cotton Company. It is proposed to establish agencies. It is proposed to purchase cotton of the growers direct, and to endeavor to improve the process of picking and cleaning by machinery.

An influential meeting took place at Manchester to devise measures to relieve the cotton trade of the anxiety resulting from their dependence on the Southern States of America. Resolutions were passed recommending efforts commensurate with the danger, and approving the steps taken for the formation of a Cotton Supply Co. Several American vessels were registered at Liverpool under the British flag, to enable them to carry salt to South Carolina, and return with cotton, without fear of capture.

FRANCE.—The proceedings in the Senate and Legislature are ordered and placed at the disposal of each journal every evening.

France, it is said, is making extraordinary military and naval preparations. The excuse is the menacing attitude of Denmark and the speech of the King of Prussia. There is great activity in the French arsenals and forts. A camp at Chalons is to be formed early in the spring, consisting of 60,000 men under Marshall McMahon. There was uncommon activity at Toulon arsenal, as the government intends sending three or four fleets to sea, together with twenty steel-clad frigates.

ITALY.—The batteries of Gaeta unexpectedly opened, on the morning of the 22d, a heavy fire against the Sardinians. The latter promptly replied and compelled the place to remain silent and the besiegers continued the fire. Fourteen vessels were before Gaeta. At noon on the 22d the fleet got into line. The Sardinians are actively erecting new batteries.

Garibaldi calls for fresh donations to procure the necessary means for facilitating to Victor Emanuel the enfranchisement of the rest of Italy. The Vigilance Committee are urged to penetrate every Italian with the idea that in spring Italy must have a million of patriots under arms.

AUSTRIA—Has issued an official ordinance relative to the 30,000,000 florins loan already announced.

SPAIN.—Rumors have been current of disturbances in certain provinces in Spain, but the *Correspondence Autographa* says that they are unfounded.

DENMARK.—The Denmark Minister of Marine ordered the equipment of 22 steamers. The reserved corps of sailors are ordered to assemble the 1st of March. A committee is appointed to purchase gun boats.

HANOVER.—A dispatch says the last difficulty in reference to the redemption of the State dues is removed.

INDIA AND CHINA.—Tien Tsin dates are to November 21st. An installment of the Admiralty had been paid. A great part of the expedition have arrived at Hong Kong. Twenty-five-hundred English troops and a quota of French troops were left at Tien Tsin. Lord Elgin and Hope Grant arrived at Shanghai, December 4th, and on the 7th both started for Japan. The Peiho was completely frozen up. Baron Gros and Mr. Ward had been at Canton. A steamer had been up the inland waters near Canton with perfect safety. The rebels were still in force and gained strength. The Yangtse was much infested with pirates.

Calcutta dates are to December 30th. Monster meetings had been held protesting against the Government gift to Tippoo Sultan's descendants. Troops had been ordered to Dangoling.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—*Breadstuffs*—Wakefield, Nash & Co., Richardson, Spence & Co., Bigland, Athya & Co., report flour dull, and a decline of 6d@1s per barrel on the week. Quotations 28s6d@31s6d. Wheat dull, 1d@2d per cental lower. Red western 11s@13s. Corn dull and declined 6d@9d since Tuesday, mixed 36s9d@37s, yellow 39s@39s6d. *Provisions*—Pork dull. Lard steady.

The News Condenser.

—The debt of Virginia now exceeds $32,000,000

—Liquor selling has been entirely stopped in Harden, Iowa.

—The English Duke of Athol has a deer pasture of 400,000 acres.

—The Great Eastern is undergoing repairs at Milford Haven, England.

—The St. Louis cathedral spire, in Louisville, Ky., is 286 feet high.

—Diptheria is making sad ravages in Hancock and Franklin counties, Me.

—State of Kentucky leases its State Penitentiary now for $8,000 a year.

—The Capital of Washington Territory has been removed to Vancouver.

—All the free negroes have been driven out of Charleston, South Carolina.

—The Postmaster at Mobile denies that letters have been violated in his office.

—Three deaths of children in New York, Thursday week, from burns and scalds.

—The next State Fair of the Illinois Agricultural Society is to be held in Chicago.

—Seventy thousand persons are employed in connection with the French railroads.

—The cultivation of cotton in Asiatic Turkey is receiving some attention in England.

—Rev. Mr. Spencer lost all his five children in a fortnight, by diptheria, at Pownal, Vt.

—There are 5,000 miles of canal in Great Britain, representing a capital of $200,000,000.

—The Florida volunteers, under Col. Chase, are said to have retired from Pensacola.

—Ex-Secretary Cobb was defeated as a candidate to the Georgia seceding convention.

—A family which applied to a charitable society in Newburyport for aid, keeps 17 cats!

—In Providence, R. I., during the year 1860, 102 persons died, aged 70 years and upward.

—Last year's wheat crop of the six Northwestern States is estimated at 94,000,000 bushels.

—There are in London 36 refuges, homes, and industrial schools—15 for boys and 21 for girls.

—The earnings of the N. Y. State prisons last year were $238,627, and the expenses $282,705

—Mrs. Burch died recently at Junius, N. Y., aged 112 years. She was married 90 years ago.

—The military force of Pennsylvania is 365,000 men, of whom 18,000 are uniformed volunteers

—The plague is said to be raging in the Southern parts of Asia, hundreds of deaths occurring daily.

—The grand jury at Washington have letters which fasten complicity upon Floyd in the bonds robbery.

—Timothy Maloney, editor of the Tompkins County Democrat, died of consumption, Wednesday week.

—A plan is being adopted for lighting the ships in the British navy with gas, manufactured on board.

—On the 31st of Dec. last, there was, in the New York State Treasury, a cash balance of $5,040,470 99

—The quantity of gold, silver, copper, and bronze coinage, in Great Britain, is valued at $45,000,000,000

—A brilliant meteor passed over Bermuda, Jan. 6, exploding some distance from land with a terrific report.

—The census marshals of New York return 32 cases of intermarriage between whites and colored persons.

—A proposition to erect a marble statue to Ex-Gov. Banks has been rejected by the Massachusetts Legislature.

—A young man, who, two years ago, inherited $70,000, is now posting bills at Chicago. Rum has ruined him.

—By letters from Liberia, December 16, it appears that the Liberian Republic had captured two slave schooners.

—The Savings Banks in Rhode Island have deposits to the amount of $9,163,760 in the names of 35,405 persons.

—It is said the Pope has recently disposed of some fine works of art, from the Vatican, to the Emperor of Russia.

—The measles are now prevailing in Ellicottville, N. Y., to such an extent that all the schools there have been closed.

—There is some talk of a reduction in the postage rates between France and England, from four pence to two pence.

—A boy was in prison, in New York, from Saturday night to Monday morning, for stealing a pickle, valued at half a cent.

—The house in which Thomas Jefferson was born, at Shadwell Depot, Albemarle Co., Va., was burned on Thursday week.

—Hon. Allen Ayrault, a leading politician and agriculturist of Livingston county, died at Geneseo, on Monday week.

—The oyster-packing trade of Baltimore, for the year 1860, reached the sum of three and a half million dollars in value.

—A disease, something like the black tongue, has made its appearance, recently, among the horses and cattle of Des Moines.

—A little boy in Oxford, Mass., a few days ago, fell into a pig sty, and was dreadfully mangled by a hog before he was rescued.

—Druidical remains, similar to those in Ireland, and the hoar-stones of England and Scotland, have been discovered in India.

—Two Jewish converts, of the name of Leman, have been ordained priests, and are in the Romish Church service, at Lyons.

—The medical colleges in the United States, so far as reported, graduated, last year, 1,497 students, as doctors of medicine.

—A gun has just been cast at Pittsburg, with a twelve inch bore, which will throw a ball over six miles. It is called the "Union."

—The snow in the northern towns of Herkimer Co. is said to be full five feet deep. A sudden thaw would cause a terrible freshet.

—The census of Missouri shows that State to have 1,407,536 whites, 113,188 slaves, and 3,902 free negroes, or, in the aggregate, 1,524,626.

—There are now thirty-six living of the five hundred and eighty six who mustered into service from New Orleans, in December, 1814.

—The New Orleans journals are explaining and apologizing for the interference, by force, of the free channel of the Mississippi river.

—From the French postoffice returns for 1860, it appears that, on an average, every inhabitant of France writes eight letters per annum.

—A soldier of the war of 1812 committed suicide in Mississippi, a few days ago. He was moved by grief for the dissolution of the Union.

—The Glasgow Examiner states that one day in Christmas week, the thermometer was actually, in some parts of Scotland, 40° below zero.

—The Jordan Transcript announces the death of James Martin, at Elbridge, on Sunday week, at the age of one hundred and twelve years!

—Henry Dow, a lad of 16 years of age, has been sentenced by Judge Vredenberg, of New Jersey, to be executed on the 4th of April, for murder.

—The contractors of the Southern Pacific Railroad have bound themselves to complete 25 miles of the road, west of Marshall, Texas, by May 1st.

—A piece of land was recently sold in London at the rate of $1,000,000 per acre, sufficient to cover it with silver equal to half a dollar in thickness.

—Henry L. Wilson, brother of Charles L. Wilson, of the Chicago Journal, and the business manager of that establishment, died on Saturday week.

—The school mistresses sent out to Oregon by Gov. Slade, of Vt., were to pay a fine of $600 if they married under one year. Most of them paid the fine.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

ONE of the curious facts revealed by the publication of Custom House tables, is that there were imported into the country last year, 300,000 pounds of opium. Of this amount, it is estimated, from reliable data, that not more than one-tenth is used for medical purposes.

THERE are in France upwards of three hundred beet root sugar factories, producing more than 40,000 tons annually, while the non-crystalised matter extracted from lees and dregs furnishes enormous quantities of sweetening matter to breweries and also to the wine doctors of Cotte and Girande.

THE snow in Northern Vermont is deeper than has been known for ten years past, and has seriously deranged the mails. The train from Montreal, which left on Tuesday morning of last week, reached Rouse's Point on Friday evening; four days for what is commonly a run of four hours.

THE American Flag in which the Boston petition to Congress was enclosed, was sent to the editor of the Richmond *Whig*, with a request that it might hang in his office "as an emblem of good will from the Bay State to Old Virginia." The editor says it shall hang there whether Virginia stays in the Union or not.

PRIVATE letters from leading telegraph men, by the last mail from California, state that all the telegraph interests in California will be consolidated and a strong Company formed on the Pacific to co-operate with the Western Union on the Atlantic side, for the rapid completion of the Pacific line under the recent Congressional grant.

THE New Mexico mail from Pawnee Fork, arrived on the 4th inst. The snow on the Plains is from two to four feet deep. The mail was compelled to travel part of the way in on pack mules. They were three days making six miles. Nothing had been heard at Pawnee Fork of the murder of Major Main at the Ratoon mountains, and the presumption is that if it were so they would have heard of it, as they are in weekly communication with Fort Wise.

THE Berkshire Woolen Company of Great Barrington, Mass., was recently notified to obey the law in reference to giving a quarter's vacation every year to its operatives under fifteen years of age. Therefore it discharged that class on the 28th ult., numbering nearly one-third of the help, and their places will be filled by older people who have been thrown out of employment in that section. The object of the law is to secure an attendance at school by children of a tender age.

REV. NICHOLAS MURRAY, D. D., more widely known as "Kirwan," died at his residence in Elizabethtown, N. J., Feb. 5th, in the 60th year of his age. He was a native of Ireland, of Roman Catholic parentage, but came to America when a boy, and was early converted to the Protestant religion. He graduated at Williams College in 1826, studied theology at Princeton, and subsequently was engaged in the service of the American Tract Society. He was first settled in the ministry at Wyoming Valley, and afterwards at Kingston, Pa.; his third call was to Elizabethtown, where he remained until his death. Dr. Murray was a man of fine abilities; which were more conspicuously brought before the world in the "Kirwan" controversy than at any other time.

FOURTEEN States make the following comparison of [illegible] that of 1850.

States.	Pop. in 1850.	Pop. in 1860.
Connecticut	370,792	461,333
Massachusetts	994,514	1,331,409
New York	3,097,394	3,827,100
Pennsylvania	2,311,786	2,913,441
New Jersey	489,555	660,093
Ohio	1,980,329	2,383,982
Indiana	988,416	1,347,000
Georgia	906,185	1,075,077
Maryland	583,034	682,346
Virginia	1,421,661	1,538,100
Iowa	192,214	678,435
Illinois	851,470	1,759,496
Michigan	397,654	749,909
Wisconsin	305,391	777,771

WORK OF THE U. S. MINT.—The total coinage of the United States Mint and branches, from 1793 to June 30, 1860, has been as follows:—Gold, $583,408,-005,93; silver, $125,275,775,03; copper and nickle, $2,545,813,56. Grand total, $716,229,595,82. The whole number of pieces coined was 770,921,687.

COTTON IN NICARAGUA.—Major John P. Heiss, formerly of Tennessee, and more recently of Washington, has returned to Nicaragua to settle there permanently. So satisfied is he with the cotton-raising experiments made upon the high and healthy interior lands of that region, that it was his purpose immediately to put a hundred acres under cultivation for that staple. There is no longer any doubt that large districts of Central America are well adapted to the culture of cotton by white labor, as the table lands, away from the coasts and river bottoms, are as healthy and salubrious as they are rich and fertile.

DR. JOHN WAKEFIELD FRANCIS, M. D. LL. D., died on Saturday morning in New York, in the 72d year of his age. He had been suffering for a long time from a very painful disease—a carbuncle on his back. Dr. Francis was born in New York in 1789, and was the son of a German, who came to this country in 1783. He graduated at Columbia College in 1809, and was a pupil, and subsequently a partner of Dr. Hosack. In 1811 he received the first degree conferred by the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons. In 1813 he was made lecturer in Materia Medica in the last named College. Subsequently he has been Professor of the Institutes of Medicine in Rutger's Medical College, Professor of obstetrics and forensic medicine, resident physician of the city, President of the New York Academy of Medicine. He was, besides, an officer or member of many learned societies.

STATE INEBRIATE ASYLUM.—The Board of Trustees of the New York Inebriate Asylum met in New York on the 4th inst. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—John W. Francis, M. D., LL. D., of New York, President; Hon. W. T. McCoun, of Long Island, Vice-President; Hon. Josiah B. Williams, of Ithaca, second Vice-President; J. H. Ransom, of New York, Treasurer; J. Edward Turner, of New York, Corresponding Secretary; T. Jefferson Gardner, of New York, Register. The applications for admission number 4,310; and they have been made from every State in the Union, and from every county in this State. The Asylum, which will accommodate 400 patients, will be ready for occupancy in the fall. The funds of the institution have been contributed by almost every town and village in the State, and the services of agents, officers and trustees have been gratuitously rendered. The Board adopted a resolution appointing Thomas W. Olcott, Thomas C. Brinsmade and J. E. Turner, a committee to urge upon the Legislature the passage of a bill authorizing the institution to issue bonds, based upon their lands, to the amount of $60,000.

IMPROVED METHOD OF TANNING.—It is the pretty general opinion of those who wear boots that leather is not as good as it used to be in old times, when men were honest—that it is deficient in strength and durability. We cannot say how well founded is this opinion. In our report of the last State Fair at Elmira, we noticed favorably some calf-skins, sheepskins with the wool on, muskrat skins, &c., exhibited by E. D. HALLOCK, of this city, that appeared to us to be remarkably strong and tough, and entirely destitute of that smell peculiar to skins tanned with the hair on by the old process. The Committee were so well pleased with this system of tanning that they awarded Mr. H. a silver medal and a diploma. Since that time we have paid a little attention to this new process of tanning, and find that the skins are perfectly cured in from two to four days, and without the use of bark or injurious chemicals. The material used is cheap, and can be grown from seed by any farmer where corn will succeed. Skins tanned by this method may be washed, and when dried do not become hard, but are as soft and pliable as when new. The leather is remarkably tough, and a narrow strip cut from a sheep-skin is so strong that it is impossible to break it by hand.

The Publisher to the Public.

SINGLE ADDITIONS TO CLUBS.—A Western Agent, in remitting for one addition to his club says—"If sending single subscriptions don't suit, let me know." Well, Sir, it *does suit*, exactly. You, or any other friend after forming a club for this volume, are at liberty, and requested, to make additions any time within the year at club rate—by ones, twos, threes, or any number. So, being right, go-ahead, good friends, the more additions the merrier—and you will observe by a notice elsewhere that we offer *Extra Premiums* for additions, or new clubs, between this date and April 1st.

☞ LOOK SHARP, FRIENDS!—If those ordering the RURAL would write all names of persons, post-offices, &c., correctly and plainly, we should receive less scolding about *other people's errors*. Our clerks are not infallible, but most of the errors about which agents complain are *not* attributable to any one in the RURAL Office. People who forget to date their letters at any place, or to sign their names, or to give the name or address for copies ordered, will please take things calmly and not charge us with their sins of omission, etc.

☞ THE MONEY WE RECEIVE.—Bills on all solvent Banks in the U. S. and Canada taken at par on subscription to the RURAL, but our agents and other friends will please remit New York, New England, or Canada money, when convenient. Postage Stamps can be remitted for fractional parts of a dollar. For all amounts over $5 we prefer Drafts on either New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Albany, Rochester, or Buffalo, (less exchange,) payable to our order—and all such drafts may be mailed at the risk of the Publisher. If our friends throughout the Union, British Provinces, &c., will comply with these suggestions so far as convenient, the favor will be appreciated.

☞ OUR SPECIFIC PREMIUMS ARE PROMPTLY PAID.—An Agent Friend asks—"Are the specific Prizes to be given now, or not till the first of April?" *Answer*—Just as our friends prefer. We endeavor to pay all Premiums promptly—as soon as directions are received as to the books or extra RURALS wanted, and where to send them. We have been paying premiums for this year's clubs right along, as ordered—and within the past two days *have sent, by mail and express, hundreds of volumes of premium books to agents*. Hence those entitled to premiums have only to send on their orders in order to receive. ☞ Those who keep adding to their lists (as many do, directing us *not* to send any premiums at present,) until April, will probably secure larger and more valuable premiums—yet we send whenever desired, and all who add enough to their lists before April can obtain further premiums.

☞ CLUBBING WITH THE MAGAZINES, &c.—We will send the RURAL NEW-YORKER for 1861 and a yearly copy of either *The Atlantic, Harper's, Godey's*, or any other $3 magazine, for $4. The RURAL and either *The Horticulturist, Hovey's Magazine, Arthur's Magazine*, or *any other* $2 magazine, for $3. Canada subscribers must add the American postage.

☞ VOLUNTARY AGENTS FOR THE RURAL.—Any and every Subscriber or reader is requested to act in behalf of the RURAL, by forming clubs or otherwise. *Now is the time* for its friends to manifest their interest in the paper and the cause it advocates, either by obtaining new subscribers, or inducing others to act in its behalf. If any lose or wear out numbers in *showing the paper*,—that's the best way to get subscribers,—we will duplicate them in order to make their files complete for binding.

Special Notices.

TO PUBLIC SPEAKERS,

And others who make a free use of the vocal organs. *From Rev. E. H. Chapin, D. D., New York.* "Brown's Bronchial Troches,"—"I consider your Lozenges an excellent article for their purposes, and recommend their use to Public Speakers."

Markets, Commerce, &c.

RURAL NEW-YORKER OFFICE,
Rochester, Feb. 12, 1861.

FLOUR.—Such sales as were effected during the past week, were at prices within the range of our quotation table. There is but little doing except to supply demand of retailers.

GRAIN—The only change noted is in Rye, which has advanced somewhat. The range is 60@65 cents per bushel of 60 lbs.

PROVISIONS—Dressed Hogs have declined owing to the "melting mood" of the weather for two days past. Hams now range from 9@10c, Shoulders 6½@7c.

DAIRY—Roll Butter ranges from 13@15c, as to quality.—Cheese is slightly lower.

FRUITS AND ROOTS—Green Apples have put on 6 cents per bushel during the week, dried are worth 2½@3 cents ℔ pound. Potatoes have advanced and range from 35@45c, as to variety.

SEEDS—Clover is without change. There was an error in figures of our "Table" on Timothy, last week, but it could not mislead those who paid any attention to our weekly review. The maximum price instead of reading $2,25 ought to have been $2,50. There is but little movement in market.

HAY is selling at $8,00@12,00 per ton, with an occasional sale at $13,00 for superior. The probabilities are that the latter figures will be reached during the week for first quality.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

FLOUR AND GRAIN		Eggs, dozen	15@16c
Flour, winter wheat	$5,25@6,75	Honey, box	12@14
Flour, spring do	5,00@5,00	Candles, box	12@13
Flour, buckwheat	0,00@2,00	Candles, extra	00@14
Meal, Indian	@1,12½	**FRUIT AND ROOTS**	
Wheat, Genesee	1,10@1,30	Apples, bushel	25@31c
Best white Canada	0,00@1,35	Apples, dried, ℔ lb	2½@3
Corn, old	00@60c	Peaches, dried, ℔ lb	00@10
Corn, new	00@45	Cherries, dried	00@12
Rye, 60 lbs ℔ bush	60@65	Plums, dried	00@10
Oats, by weight	25@26	Potatoes	35@45
Barley	45@50	**HIDES AND SKINS**	
Buckwheat	35@40	Slaughter	4 @ 4
Beans	62½@75	Calf	8 @
MEATS		Sheep Pelts	50@1
Pork, Mess	$16,50@00,00	Lamb Pelts	50@5
Pork, clear	18,00@19,00	**SEEDS**	
Pork, cwt	6,00@6,75	Clover, bushel	$4,00@4
Beef, cwt	4,00@6,00	Timothy	2,00@2
Spring lambs, each	1,50@2,00	**SUNDRIES**	
Mutton, carcass	4@5c	Wood, hard	$3,00@5
Hams, smoked	9@10	Wood, soft	3,00@3
Shoulders	6½@7	Coal, Lehigh	7,00@7
Chickens	7@8	Coal, Scranton	5,75@6
Turkeys	9@10	Coal, Pittston	5,75@6
Geese	40@50	Coal, Shamokin	5,75@6
Ducks ℔ pair	38@44	Coal, Char	10@1
DAIRY, &c		Salt, bbl	1,75@1 7
Butter, roll	13@15	Hay, tun	8,00@12
Butter, firkin	13@14	Straw, tun	0,00@0
Cheese	9@10	Wool, ℔ lb	30@40c
Lard, tried	10@10	Whitefish, half bbl	4,25@4,50
Tallow, rough	0 @ 6	Codfish, ℔ quintal	4,00@5,00
Tallow, tried	8 @ 8½	Trout, half bbl	4,00@4,25

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, FEB. 11—FLOUR—Market dull, heavy and 5@10c lower. Shippers are only buying to a limited extent, while the home trade refuse to purchase more than sufficient to supply the most pressing wants. Sales at $5,05@5,10 for super State, $5,15@5,25 for extra do, $5,05@5,10 for super Western, $5,15@5, for common to medium extra do, $5,45@5,55 for inferior to good shipping brands extra round hoop Ohio. Canadian dull and lower, sales at $5,35@6,75 for common to choice extra.

GRAIN—Wheat dull, unsettled and nominally 1@2c lower, shippers, in view of the high rates of freights and the extreme difficulty in selling exchange, are not disposed to buy to any material extent except at a decided decline from present quotations, sales fair Chicago spring at $1,16, Milwaukee club, amber Wisconsin and Iowa at $1,21@1,24 delivered, winter red Western at $1,28, white Western at $1,45. Rye dull, sales at 65c. Barley steady, with a little better inquiry, sales at 75c. Corn dull, heavy and declining, sales at 66c for old mixed Western, in store—closing with free sellers at these figures, 63c for new do at railroad depot, 64c for new Southern yellow, 62½c for inferior new white do. Oats in moderate request, sales at 32@35c, for Western, Canadian and State.

PROVISIONS—Pork quiet and steady for mess and dull and nominal for prime, sales at $17,50 for mess, $13,00 for prime. Hogs dull and slightly lower, sales at 7@7¼c. for corn fed dressed, 5½@6c for live. Lard dull and heavy, sales at 9½@10½. Butter in fair request at 10@14c. for Ohio, 14@16c. for State. Cheese steady at 9@10½c. for inferior to prime.

HOPS—Continue in steady moderate demand mostly for consumption, at firm prices—the bulk of the stock is made up of grades below prime, and are not much sought for, the inquiry confined chiefly to choice qualities, sales are about 150 bales at 23@32 cents, and 30 do choice, 35c, cash. Old growths are neglected.

SEEDS—For Clover seed the demand has been less active, at prices in favor of buyers. The sales of the week may amount to 1,000 bags, ranging from 7c for common to 8c for choice.

ASHES—The market is steady, but business small, at $5,00 for Pots, and $5,25 for Pearl, the previous rates.

ALBANY, Feb. 11—FLOUR AND MEAL.—In Flour, the business doing is quite limited and principally confined to the retail trade for the supply of the city wants.

GRAIN—There is a good supply of Wheat offering, with no buyers. Corn quiet but steady at 66c for new round yellow. Rye and Barley dull. Oats are held at 35c, with little or no inquiry.

HOPS—The falling off in the value of this article within the past two months, is being seriously felt by holders. A fortnight ago, sales of the crop of 1860 were made at 20c, and this morning further sales of 20 bales of the same lot were made at 15c, three months.—*Journal.*

BUFFALO, Feb. 11—FLOUR.—The demand for flour is moderate, and we have no change to note in quotations, sales at $4 60@5 00 for extra State, $4,75@4,87½ for fair to good extra Wisconsin, $5,00 for choice do, $5,00@5,25 for extra Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, $5,50@6,00 for double extras.

GRAIN—Wheat in moderate demand and market without striking change. Corn in moderate demand, sales was reported on Saturday afternoon, free from store, at 46½c. Oats and other grains quiet and no sales.

DRESSED HOGS scarce at 6¼@6½c.—*Com. Adv*

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 11.—FLOUR dull at $5 for super.

GRAIN—Wheat dull, sales at $1,25@1,28 for red, $1,35@1,40 for white. Corn dull, sales at 56@60c.

PROVISIONS—Mess Pork $18,25@18,50. Lard 10½c.

TORONTO, Feb. 9.—FLOUR—The lower grades of flour continue in moderate demand, but sales have been effected only by considerable concessions on the part of holders. Nevertheless there has been more disposition to realize, and we have heard of several transactions. The present rate offered for superfine is $4,60, but holders demand $4,75, at which rate sales have been made some days ago. A fair quotation for Superfine would be about $4,70. For May delivery 1,000 barrels of Superfine was sold during the week at $5,40 free on board. Fancy is purely nominal at $5 50, Extra also nominal at $5,50@5,75, Double Extra, $6@6,25 per barrel.

GRAIN—Fall wheat within the past few days, has been selling at $1,10@1,16, with an occasional purchase at $1,17. The average price for the best grades has been about $1,15. Spring wheat is in good demand, and for it the inquiry is more animated than for fall grain. Prices, however, show a decline on the week, and are now quoted at 90@96c, with an occasional lot at 98c@$1 per bushel. Barley offers sparingly at 53@57c ℔ bushel. Peas are wanted, and supplies still fall short of the anticipated amount. The rates are, however, lower, owing to a decline in other markets. Good peas are sold at 50@52c ℔ bushel. Oats are steady, the local demand fully taking up the limited supplies. We quote them at 25@27c ℔ bushel.—*Globe.*

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

BEEF CATTLE.	
First quality	$9,00@9,50
Ordinary quality	8,25@8,75
Common quality	7,00@8,00
Inferior quality	6,50@6,50
COWS AND CALVES.	
First quality	$55,00@60,00
Ordinary quality	40,00@50,00
Common quality	30,00@35,00
Inferior quality	25,00@30,00
VEAL CALVES.	
First quality, ℔ lb	6½@7½c
Ordinary quality	5½@6 c
Common quality	4 @5 c
Inferior quality	3½@4 c
SHEEP AND LAMBS.	
Prime quality	$5,00@6,00
Ordinary quality	4,00@4,70
Common quality	3,00@3,75
Inferior quality	2,75@3,00
SWINE.	
First quality	5½@6¼c
Other qualities	5½@5¾c

ALBANY, Feb. 11—BEEVES—The receipts by rail are in excess of last week, but the number on sale is less, owing to the fact that upwards of 600 were held over here then. Market is heavy. There is the usual number of buyers here, but those from New York say that their experience of the past two or three weeks will not permit them to buy at the asking prices. Some few buyers think they are paying higher than last week, but taking quality into consideration, the sales that have come under our notice do not justify this opinion.

RECEIPTS—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car:

	This week.	Last week.	Cor. week last year.
Cattle	2,784	2,394	2,913
Sheep	3,829	2,640	2,971
Hogs	75		836

PRICES—Those classed as premium and extra are heavier and fatter this week than usual, and we alter our quotations on these grades accordingly.

	This week.	Last week.
Premium	4¾@5¼c	4¾@5 c
Extra	4½@4¾c	4½@4¾c
First quality	3¾@3¾c	3¾@3¾c
Second quality	@3 s	@3 s
Third quality	[illegible]	@2½c

We notice a small drove of premium Kentucky, averaging 1,900 lbs. for which 5¾c was asked. We understand that the holder refused 5½c ℔ lb, live weight.

LIVE HOGS—Continue in fair request at the decline. Sales about 2,200 head. Stillers 4¾@5c, and corn fed 5¼@5½c—not many selling at outside quotations.—*Atlas and Argus.*

BRIGHTON, Feb. 7.—At market—900 Beef Cattle, 80 Stores, 2,000 Sheep and Lambs, and 200 Swine.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $7,25@0,00; 1st quality, $6,75@7,00; 2d do, $6,00@0,00; 3d do, $0,00@5,00.

WORKING OXEN—$87@100.

MILCH COWS—$40@48; common, $18@19.

VEAL CALVES—$3,00@4,00.

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0; two-years old, $12@13; three years old, $14@17.

HIDES—5@5½c ℔ lb, (none but slaughtered at market.)

CALF SKINS—10@11c ℔ lb.

TALLOW—6@6¼c ℔ lb.

PELTS—$1,00@1,25 each.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—$1,25@2,00; extra, $3,00@5,50.

SWINE—Store, wholesale, 0@6c; retail, 6@7c.

CAMBRIDGE, Feb. 6.—At market 476 cattle, about 400 beeves and 76 stores, consisting of working oxen, cows and one, two and three years old.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $6,50@6,75; first quality, $6,00@0,00; second quality, $5,00@0,00; third quality, $3,25; ordinary quality, $2,75.

WORKING OXEN—$70@150.

COWS AND CALVES—$30, $35, $40@80.

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0; two years old, $12@14; three years old, $16@17.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—2,000 at market. Prices—in lots $1,66@1,70; extra and selections, $2,25@5,25 each.

PELTS—$1@$1,25 each.

TALLOW—6½@7c ℔ lb.

HIDES—4½@5c ℔ lb. CALF SKINS—10@11c ℔ lb.

VEAL CALVES—None.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—The market is still very inactive, tho' prices are fully sustained. The few sales that are making are altogether for immediate use, and being mostly between dealers are kept secret. Should a settlement of the existing political difficulties soon be effected we may look for some improvement in the market, but while the prospect for the future is so uncertain it is but natural that both buyer and seller should operate with caution. The sales for the week are some 25,000 lbs medium grades fleece at 31@40c; a few small lots pulled wools at 25@40; 10,000 lbs. fine Russia at 27½c, 10,000 lbs. coarse Texas at 10c, 30,000 lbs. California, and 50 bales Mexico on terms not made public. We quote

American Saxony Fleece, ℔ lb	45@48
American full blood Merino	@44
American half blood and three-fourths Merino	38@40
American Nat	

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50 AGENTS WANTED—In a business that pays $40 per month and expenses. Send stamp for particulars to F. BEECH, Canoga, Seneca Co., N. Y.

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20 BUSHELS APPLE SEEDS FOR SALE.—I have now on hand 20 bushels first quality Apple Seed.—Also, 10 bushels of Cherry Pits, and 15 bushels Plum Pits at $5 per bushel, at the Genesee Seed store, Rochester, N. Y.
579-2teow J. RAPALJE.

NEW CUYAHOGA GRAPES.—Send a stamp for one Illustrated and Descriptive Catalogue of near 80 sorts of New Grapes. Also Currants, Raspberries, Gooseberries, &c. Also Roses and Flowering Shrubs.
579-41 C. P. BISSELL & SALTER, Rochester, N. Y.

FOR SALE OR RENT.—A good Farm of 124½ acres, 4 miles north of the City of Syracuse, town of Clay, N. Y., on which are good farm buildings, orchard, and living water. Price, $50 per acre, rent $300 per year. For further particulars inquire of E. T. WRIGHT, No. 17 North Salina Street, Syracuse, N. Y. [579-3t] A. N. WRIGHT, Perry, N. Y.

WANTED—EXPERIENCED AND RESPONSIBLE AGENTS, to sell on commission, Town or County rights for a NEW LEVER CUTTER, for cutting Hay, Straw, or Corn Stalks. Sells rapidly at $6 each. Can be profitably made in any country shop. Security will be required that the proceeds of sales shall be duly paid over. Address
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OUR Books comprise a large assortment of valuable Family Works which command a ready sale, and Agents now employed by us are making from $50 to $100 per month. Female Agents can make a good living by selling our Books. For further particulars and descriptive Catalogues address
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Glass Cloth Presser and Hemmers,

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HOWARD'S NEW MOWER

I wish thus early to call the attention of those intending to buy a MOWER, or a MOWER AND REAPER for the coming harvest, to my NEW MACHINE and the reduction of prices. I shall have for the coming harvest four different size Machines, and sell them as follows:

My One-Horse Mower, capable of cutting from five to six acres per day, $70 00

No 2—Two-Horse Mower, will cut from eight to ten acres per day, $85 00

No 1—Two-Horse Mower, will cut from twelve to fifteen acres per day, $100 00

Combined Mower and Reaper, twelve to fifteen acres per day, $120 00

They are so arranged that

The Entire Machine Runs on Wheels or Rollers,

and with a Lateral Adjustable Lever and Roller, the driver has perfect control of the finger-bar in backing or raising it over obstructions, or in transporting the Machine from field to field. They throw out and in gear by the driver without leaving his seat, and there is no necessity of backing up to give the knives motion before entering the grass, nor to clear. [illegible] They have no side draft—no [illegible] to cause sore necks on your horses—no clogging or breaking down, and any boy can manage them.

Each Machine is warranted to be made of good material—to cut any and all kinds of grass without clogging—to have no side draught, and to be worked with less labor for man and team than any machine now offered for sale, doing the same amount of work. Send for a Circular. Address
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ELLWANGER & BARRY solicit the attention of Planters, Nurserymen, Dealers and others, to their large and fine stock which they now offer at wholesale and retail, at low prices. It embraces

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BULBOUS ROOTS, Summer and Autumn Flowering, including Amaryllis, Gladiolus, Tuberose, Tigridia, Tritonia Aurea, Colchicum, Japan Lilies, the finest new varieties, and all the other desirable species.

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Twelve new varieties of Petunias, which we think superior to any in cultivation, will be ready to go out May 1st.—$4 for the 12—names and descriptions furnished on application.

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No. 2—Descriptive Catalogue of Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, &c., &c.
No. 3—Descriptive Catalogue of Dahlias, Green-House and Bedding Plants, &c.
No. 4—Wholesale Catalogue for Nurserymen, Dealers and others, who purchase in large quantities.

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"CREVELING" GRAPE VINES.—Orders for Vines of this really *delicious and early Grape*—accompanied by Cash—will receive prompt attention.
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and well adapted for all purposes where steam is required for heating. It is also well adapted for all

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APPLE ROOT GRAFTS.—A reliable and we believe unequalled assortment, 10,000 for $80. One year grafts, 1,000, $35. Seeds, Scions, &c. *See List.*
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CONVERTS THE

Poorest Hay or Straw

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FIFTY AND FIFTEEN.

With gradual gleam the day was dawning,
Some lingering stars were seen,
When swung the garden gate behind us,—
He fifty, I fifteen.

The high topped chaise and old gray pony
Stood waiting in the lane,
Idly my father swayed the whip-lash,
Lightly he held the rein.

The stars went softly back to heaven,
The night fog rolled away,
And rims of gold and crowns of crimson
Along the hill-tops lay.

That morn the fields, they surely never
So fair an aspect wore;
And never from the purple clover
Such perfume rose before.

O'er hills and low romantic valleys,
And flowery by-roads through,
I sang my simplest songs, familiar,
That he might sing them too.

Our souls lay open to all pleasure,—
No shadow came between;
Two children, busy with their leisure,
He fifty, I fifteen.

* * * * * *

As on my couch in languor, lonely,
I weave beguiling rhyme,
Comes back with strangely sweet remembrance
That far removed time.

The slow-paced years have brought sad changes
That morn and this between,
And now, on earth, my years are fifty,
And his, in heaven, fifteen.

Atlantic Monthly.

The Story-Teller.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

MAGIC.

BY EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER.

CHAPTER I.

"Open, Sesame! and the rock it opened."

THANKSGIVING MORNING in New England! Not such a bleak, desolate morning as sometimes comes, even on festal days, when the brown earth lies bare and naked in the cold, but everywhere, on everything, a deep, pure covering of snow; almost trackless, save here and there where the little barefooted snow-birds had marked curious patterns with their tiny feet, or some farmer had gone with long strides from the kitchen door to the barn, to shake down hay for the cattle. Before sunrise the snow clung in damp masses to the hemlock boughs, and here and there on the maples and oaks, but as the long, red rays grew warmer, it slid off in little avalanches, and the green branches sprang up with a little toss of relief, while the stiffer trees dropped their burdens [illegible] so that the ground beneath them looked as if they had [illegible] a dignified game of snow-balling. Blue smoke curled lazily up from roofs newly thatched with down, and at many and many a window, rosy faces were pressed against the frosty panes, while warm breath and busy fingers strove together to clear a tiny place, where the eager eyes might catch the first glimpse of Thanksgiving out of doors. Pleasant as heart could wish out of [illegible] MAN thought so, as he looked up from his newspaper to bid his daughter MARGARET good morning, and glanced around the cheerful breakfast room. The little French clock upon the mantel chimed out its silvery call. The breakfast bell rang vigorously at the foot of the stairs, and in a moment more two curly heads darted in at the door, leaving it wide open behind them, in the eager race to see who would be first to bid father good morning. It was hard to tell who won, since both shouted together at the top of their voices; but in the meantime the quiet MARGARET had shut the door in her own gentle way, smoothed down the rug, which the hurrying feet had disturbed, and while her father was looking fondly into their happy faces, her skillful fingers had settled FRED's refractory collar, and pulled JENNY's night-cap out of her apron pocket, where she had thrust it in her haste.

It was always MARGARET who did such things for everybody, but they were all so used to her care-taking that they hardly thought about it. "*It was Margaret's way,*" her father said; "there was some magic about her, for she always did just the right thing at the right time."

The family were all together, so they seated themselves at the table. They were all together, and yet it seemed hard to say it that Thanksgiving morning, for there had been a time, only a few years before, when they would still have been waiting for somebody. Waiting to hear a slow, soft step upon the stair, and to see a pale, delicate woman enter, with a sweet good morning for all. Waiting to see a little child, a golden-headed, dancing thing, come tottering in with the half-spoken words and winsome ways of babyhood. There was a vacant place at the table, and a little empty chair in the corner, that seemed to be always waiting too; but they never came, and never would come any more; so with an involuntary glance toward the door, and a half sigh, Mr. NEWMAN turned to the bountifully laden table.

"We certainly have a great deal to be thankful for," said he, more cheerfully, looking at MARGARET's tender eyes, overflowing with love and sympathy, as her quick heart took in the thought that had prompted her father's sigh; and then at the merry children, too full of unmixed glee to dream of such a thing as sorrow.

"Father," said little JENNY, "why don't you ask me what part of the chicken I *perfer*, just as you do MARGARET?"

"So I will, JENNY," said Mr. NEWMAN, smiling, "now what do you choose?"

"Oh, I perfer one part just as well as another," said JENNY, gravely, "only I should like the *wish-bone*, if you please."

"Here it is for you," said her father, "only you must promise to break it with me."

"Must I tell you what I wish about?"

"Not unless you please."

"MARGARET," said the little maiden, "do people ever wish more than one wish to a wish-bone?"

"I don't know," said MARGARET, "I should think you could if you chose?"

"How many, MARGARET,—should you think three would be too many?" and Jenny's round eyes looked very anxiously in her sister's face.

"No; I think three would do very well."

"Well, then father, I'm ready to pull now. You see I want three things so much I don't know which to choose, so I shall wish them all;" and the child grasped the bone very tightly with her plump little fingers, and prepared for a desperate pull. The bone was not dry enough to snap, but, after a great deal of twisting, it broke, to JENNY's great delight, leaving the magical piece in her hand." "I've got it! Oh, I've got it," she shouted, "all my wishes, and we shall all be so glad."

"What shall we be glad for?" asked her father.

"Oh I'd rather not tell you now. I want to wait and see if it really comes true. ABBY says there's nothing at all in wish-bones, but I hope there will be in this," and JENNY applied herself very contentedly to her breakfast.

"MARGARET," said FRED, at last, leaning back in his chair, "what time shall we have dinner at grandpa's?"

"About two or three o'clock, I presume," said MARGARET, not quite understanding the drift of the question.

"Do you think I shall be hungry again by that time," queried FRED, folding his hands in a very suggestive manner over his jacket, and looking despairingly at his sister.

"Judging from all past experience, I think you will," replied MARGARET, laughing.

"By the way, MARGARET," said Mr. NEWMAN, suddenly, "I suppose you attended to those packages that JOHN brought from town last night."

"He brought nothing but the books and paper."

"Nothing! are you sure?"

"Perfectly sure, for I stood at the door as he drove up, and took them from his hands. I asked if there was anything else, and he said 'nothing more, Miss.'"

"That is too vexatious," said Mr. NEWMAN, impatiently; "that fellow does not pay one particle of attention to my orders. I had been at a great deal of pains and expense to send to the city for some fruit and other things, as a present to your grandmother, and charged JOHN to call at the Express Office for them. I would not have failed to get them for anything."

"It was very late when he got back, father," said MARGARET gently, "and he had so many errands to attend to. I thought he looked sad and anxious too."

"There cannot be any excuse for him," said Mr. NEWMAN, positively. "It isn't the first time either that he has served me so. I shall dismiss him the first chance I get, and fill his place with some one who will take the trouble to try to remember my orders. He has been here too long—let me see: it will be five years next summer."

"Only four, father," said MARGARET, with a pleading look in her eyes.

"*Five*, I remember distinctly. It was the year I sold the old Henlitt place."

"It was the summer before BERTIE died," said MARGARET, with a little tremble in her voice; "don't you remember when she saw him coming to the house, how she would hold out her hands and say, 'BERTIE so tired,' and lie so still in his arms, while he carried her up and down the garden walk? We all wondered she should cling so to the great rough man, almost a stranger too."

Oh, words fitly spoken! At the very mention of the little dead darling, the fountains of tenderness in the father's heart were unsealed, and he listened in silence, only saying as she finished,

"Yes, I remember. JOHN is a good-hearted fellow with all his faults, and I think he really loved my little girl."

Almost at the moment, the "good-hearted fellow" made his appearance at the door, and after shaking himself like a great shaggy dog, and stamping the snow from his heavy boots, came in. His eyebrows [illegible] black beard were whitened with frost, where his breath had frozen upon them, and his face bore witness to a long struggle with the keen outside air. In his hands he bore several large packages, which he handed to Mr. NEWMAN with an awkward bow.

"I hope you did not leave these in the sleigh all night, JOHN," said Mr. NEWMAN, a little anxiously.

"No 'Squire," said JOHN, holding his hands before the fire, "the fact is I forgot all about the Express till I got clean home last night. You see I had a heap of things on my mind, and I'm naterally forgetful. I felt powerful bad about it, so I jest got up about three o'clock this morning, and hitched up the black mare, and went down after the traps. I've jest got back this minute."

"And you took that long, cold ride while we were all asleep," said Mr. NEWMAN, with a feeling of condemnation, as he thought of his hasty words. [illegible] declare it was too bad."

"Oh, its no manner of 'count about me, 'Squire. Maybe it will cure me of being so forgetful, and then I couldn't sleep no way, so it was just as well to be up—better too; a man would go crazy, I reckon, that hadn't anything to do but think about trouble." JOHN looked despondingly into the fire, and seemed to be talking more to himself than any one else.

"Your wife is well, I hope, JOHN?" said Mr. NEWMAN, anxious to find out the cause of his trouble, yet not knowing exactly how to do it.

"Oh, yes, she's well," said JOHN, "and the children too. I 'spose I ought to be thankful for that, but then there's worse things than sickness, I'm thinking, or death either;" and he dropped his voice again, and looked into the fire as if he hoped to find some comfort there. In a moment more he went on, addressing himself this time to MARGARET.

"May be you didn't know, Miss, about my little girl that had such dreadful fits last spring. I forget what the doctor called 'em, some long name or other. The last one she had lasted so long we thought she never would come out of it; and my poor wife was taking on dreadfully, and praying that she might only live. The Doctor spoke up kind of sudden, and says he, '*Don't pray for that, ma'am, she'd a great deal better die.*'

"We didn't think much about it then, for we were so glad when the poor thing opened her eyes and smiled again. But a few days afterwards, when I was holding her in my arms, I thought about the Doctor's words and wondered what he meant. I've never had the heart to ask him; but I've watched the child ever since, and I've come to know what he meant, and to see that it is true, and that my little girl will be — is a —." He fairly broke down here, and pulled [illegible] his great woolen tippet as if it choked him. He could not say that dreadful word about his little girl.

JENNY stood looking at him, with her black eyes full of tears of pity for the sorrow she could not at all comprehend. Mr. NEWMAN paced the room and bit his lips; but MARGARET, with more compassion in her face than words could speak, went up to him as he sat bowed over, and laying her hand on his shoulder, said pityingly,

"Oh, JOHN! is it so bad as that?"

"Just as bad as that, Miss," said JOHN; and, not trusting himself for another word, he picked up his cap from the floor, pulled it down over his eyes, and went hastily out.

"Stop a moment, JOHN," said MARGARET, stepping into the hall after him, "here are some cakes and tarts that I made for a little Thanksgiving treat for your children," and she put the basket into his hands.

"Thank you, Miss MARGARET," said he, trying to smile, "it will be a great treat to them." Then going back to his trouble he said abruptly, "We are plain, hard-working folks, my wife and I, but it 'pears to me our children are a great deal more to us than if we had more things to set our hearts on. I pitied you all when that little BERTIE of yours died; I thought then that death was the worst thing that could come to a little child. But, Miss MARGARET, just think of seeing her every day growing strong and hearty, but forgetting all the little cunning words she used to know, and never looking glad or sorry any more."

MARGARET was weeping, partly from sympathy and partly from the thoughts of little BERTIE, and joy that she had no such dreadful memory of her. One thought of comfort came to her, and she thought it would comfort JOHN, so she said,

"Your poor little MARY will always be a child, JOHN. She will have a child's heart, and a child's soul, and she will always be pure and sinless. There can never be any care or anxiety for her to bear, few wants that she can ever know. It is as if GOD had sealed up her soul in a life-long baby hood; and I think, JOHN, He will watch her and protect her just as He does those little snow-birds out yonder."

JOHN's eyes turned involuntarily to look at the little brown things, shaking the snow from the peach tree by the gate, and, as he looked, one of them trilled out his quick, glad song. Something in the song, or the thoughts it brought of simple, trustful dependence, made a faint little rainbow on the clouds in his heart, and he went away more quiet, more hopeful than when he came. It was MARGARET's way to find some comfort for everything. [To be concluded next week.]

STRING OF PEARLS.

BETTER is a portion in a wife than with a wife.

THOUGH a good life may not silence calumny, it will disarm it.

No woman is capable of being beautiful who is not incapable of being false.

READ not books alone, but men; and, chiefly, be careful to read thyself.

A MAN passes for a sage if he seeks for wisdom; if he thinks he has found it, he is a fool.

THE light of friendship is like the light of phosphorus—seen plainest when all around is dark.

WEALTH does not always improve us. A man, as he gets to be worth more, may become worth-*less*.

THE miser lives poor to die rich, and is the jailor of his house and the turnkey of his wealth.

ENJOY the glory of the sun, and not put out your eyes by trying to count the spots upon his face.

LOVE is our best gift to our fellow beings, and that which makes any gift valuable in the sight of heaven.

A MAN's nature runs either to herbs or weeds, therefore let him seasonably water the one and destroy the other.

HAPPINESS must arise from our own temper and actions, and not immediately from any external conditions.

VALUE the friendship of him who stands by you in the storm; swarms of insects will surround you in the sunshine.

WE must be as courteous to a man as we are to a picture, which we are willing to give the advantage of a good light.

THERE are many doublings in the human heart; don't think you can find out the whole of a man's real character at once.

PEOPLE like a man while they make him, but rather change their feelings when they find that they cannot unmake him.

HOW many fine hats cover a multitude of worthless heads; and how many a plaited shirt bosom covers a cold, hollow cavern, where there ought to be a heart.

Wit and Humor.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

A HINT TO THE WISE.

A sage of ancient time was walking out,
His mind absorbed in contemplative thought,
Musing upon a subject most profound,
Thoughtless that he was treading earthly ground
Just as his thoughts their lofty climax reach,
His feet have carried him into a ditch
By chance, an aged woman passed that way,
And saw the sage as in the ditch he lay
Floundering and struggling in the filthy pool,
She kindly drew him out — the sage — the fool
She knew him well,—he was of all that age
Esteemed the wisest, best, and purest sage
Now to the sage, in playful mood, she said,
Ever he should bear in mind that while his head
Was 'mongst the stars, his feet the earth must tread

Williamsville N Y, 1861 M. H. M.

Corner for the Young.

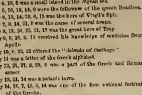
For Moore's Rural New-Yorker

CLASSICAL ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 23 letters.
My 1 was not in the Latin alphabet.
My 2, 21 was metamorphosed by Jupiter into a white heifer
My 3, 6, 17, 18, 19 were "inferior gods at Rome"
My 4, 18, 6 was a small island in the Ægean sea.
My 5, 10, 18, 14, 9 were the followers of the queen Boadicea.
My 6, 18, 14, 18, 6, 10 was the hero of Virgil's Epic.
My 7, 9, 14, 21, 9 was the name of several towns.
My 8, 18, 20, 23, 21, 17 was the great hero of Troy
My 9, 6, 16, 2, 19 received his knowledge of medicine from Apollo
My 10, 6, 22, 21 uttered the "*delenda est Carthago*"
My 11 was a letter of the Greek alphabet.
My 12, 21, 17, 2, 20, 6 was a part of the Greek and Roman armor
My 13, 21, 14 was a botanic term.
My 14, 18, 7, 13, 6, 14 was one of the four national festivals of the Greeks.
My 15, 18, 4, 21, 14 was a tyrant of Syracuse
My 16, 8, 13, 6, 14 was a song dedicated to Apollo
My 17, 21, 7, 6 was the Latin name for the "Eternal City"
My 18, 17, 2, 19 was the goddess of discord
My 19, 6, 7, 21, 19 was an island in the Ægean sea.
My 20, 4, 6, 21 was the muse of History.
My 21 16, 19 was the female Roman divinity of plenty
My 22, 8, 6, 3, 18, 19 was one of the Seven Sages of Greece.
My 23, 21, 15, 9 was the chief outer garment of the Romans.
My whole is the name of a recent American historian.
St. Armand, C. E., 1861. L. O. HIBBARD.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

ILLUSTRATED REBUS.



☞ Answer in two weeks

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker

MATHEMATICAL PROBLEM.

A POLE, standing perpendicularly at the foot of an inclined plane, was broken by a storm 30 feet from the top, when it was observed that the top struck the plane 25 feet from the foot. It was mended, in doing which it was shortened so that the broken part was exactly the length of the stump, but it broke again in the same place, when it was observed that the top touched the plane 14 feet from the foot of the pole. Required the original height of the pole.

Allen, Hillsdale Co., Mich., 1861. N. P. NORTON.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

CHARADE.

My first is a vowel that royalty claims,
It is the initial of two Christian names.
Both the Queen and the Prince, and eight of their race,
Combine to exalt it to this noble place.

My second, a source of great wealth to the nation,
And is for subsistence a usual foundation
When famine once threatened a family sore,
They traveled to Egypt to purchase some more

My whole, fruit and seed of a very large tree.
Revered by the Druids and used on the sea,
For when foes to Britain appeared on the deep,
Men looked to their own "wooden walls" in defeat.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 577.

Answer to Mythological Enigma:—The smiles of a pretty woman are the tears of the purse

Answer to Poetical Enigma.—The Alphabet.

Answer to Algebraical Problem.—$1

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